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BALI DANCE

PEARL BUCK'S WARNING TO AMERICA

—See Page 3

WOMEN WARRIORS OF RUSSIA

By COLONEL VELANTINA GRIZODUBOVA (HERO OF THE SOVIET UNION).

Throughout the many centuries of its long history, our country has known many courageous and gallant women fighters. Our country's past is rich with the examples of valour and heroism of women patriots who took part in the struggle against foreign invaders.

In the legends that have been handed down to us concerning the Mongol-Tartar invasions of Russia, we find the mention made of women and girls who donned the armour and defended their native towns side by side with their fathers and brothers. "An amazing country!" indignantly exclaimed Napoleon, "here even women fight'." Among the heroes of the memorable year of 1812 important place was occupied by Vasilisa, the leader of the Smolensk partisans, and the girl Nadezhda Durova who fought bravely a lancer regiment in a battle at Bordino.

The Soviet women fought heroically during the Civil War defending the independence of their country and the great gains of the October Revolution. One of those who fought in North Caucasus during the Civil War said, "You would think that Krasnodar had been defended only by women, so many of them were amongst the wounded soldiers." The gallant women patriots fought under the banners of the famous Civil War leaders like Chapayev and Schars and took part in the famous raid of Budenny's first cavalry army.

Women have always done much to help in the defence of our country but never has their patriotism reached such a nigh level as during the present war.

Since the very first days of the war many women and girls have been firmly convinced that their proper place is in the ranks of defenders of their country. They volunteered for service in the front where they became nurses, medical orderlies, scouts, machine-gunners, snipers, pilots and also worked in the signal service. They have fought shoulder to shoulder with men and have firmly withstood all the hardships of life of the front.

The hearts of our women patriots are filled with wrath and hatred of the German fascist invaders for the crimes they have committed. Nina Onilova aptly expressed the sentiments of our women fighters when she wrote: "I took part in the defence of Odessa with my machine-gun and I am now helping to defend Sevastopol.' "Naturally I look very tiny, weak and thin but my hands never trembled .... When you are defending your native land and your family (I have no family, therefore the whole people are my family) and then you become brave and do not know what cowardice means."

Nina Onilova killed over 500 Germans when she herself was killed and she was mourned by the whole country.

The Hero of the Soviet Union Maria Baida become famous as a scout during the fighting in Crimea. During the unforgettable days of the defence of Odessa and Sevastopol the world-famous woman sniper Ludmaila Pavlicheuko brought down 309 Germans. The women of Leningrad and Stalingrad fought bravely in defence of their cities. The gallant girl snipers Natalia Kovshova and Maria Reolivanova died in defending Moscow and were both posthumously awarded the title of the Hero of the Soviet Union.

The women who have given their lives in the struggle against their country's enemies are remembered by the people and will go down in history as great patriots. Their names even now live in the deeds of the new contingents of the Soviet women patriots.

In the First Baltic Front there are 75 girl snipers, all followers of Kovshova and Polivanova. In the course of three months they have wiped out 2,500 Germans. One of them a girl named Nina Galanina who but recently finished her training in a sniper's school once came up against an experienced German sniper in her sector. Under these circumstances, ability to shoot straight was not enough. She needed iron nerves, coolness, skill and calm calculation. The duel between them lasted a fortnight and the girl won! She killed the German sniper and brought back with her his rifle, notebook and the iron cross.

The girls are constantly becoming more competent to use their weapon; in this respect they do not lag behind men. Take for example Pilot Sevdakia Nosal. Before the war she followed the most peaceful profession —she was a school mistress. During the war she became an instructor in a flying club and was later selected—what would seem to be the most unwomanly of all professions—a pilot night bomber. This lieutenant has proved herself equal to this dangerous war work which demands exceptional skill and tremendous concentration; Guard Lieutenant Sevdokia Nosal made 354 night operational flights and dropped 49,957 kilograms of bombs on enemy troops and machine concentrations. She now bears the title of the Hero of the Soviet Union.

The officers and men of the Red Army speak with feelings of love and gratitude of the nurses and medical orderlies and their modest every day heroism. Many thousands of soldiers owe their lives to these girls.

The Germans murdered the father and a six-year-old sister of Maria, an assistant surgeon in the army. Sorrow and hatred made her to fight, who knows no fear and disdains danger and death. She took part in the fighting at Sevastopol, Kuban and at Perekop carrying 217 wounded men off the battlefield under enemy fire. She was wounded three times but each time after recovery she returned to her dangerous and selfless work.

During the two years she was at the front. Her name is Pavlenko, a medical orderly, who saved the lives of 200 wounded officers and men. One night a group of soldiers ran to a minefield and many of them were wounded. Unwaveringly Maria Pavlenko went to their aid in darkness and carried them through the minefield to a place of safety. By dawn she saved the lives of 17 wounded men. Similar examples of heroism are to be found in every sector of the front.

Women soldiers have earned for themselves affection and respect of men in the front. Not only the army but the whole people admire their gallant deeds. Thousands of women patriots have been awarded military decorations. Fifteen bravest women fighters, officers, soldiers and partisans have been awarded the high title of the Hero of the Soviet Union.

The courage of our women fighters is an extremely fine expression of the unwavering heroic spirit of the Soviet peoples who are fighting to rid the world of the Hitlerite plague.—(Soviet Women's Anti-Fascist Committee).

WOMAN IN SOVIET LITERATURE

By Pyotr Skosyrev

When Kemine, the Turkmen classic poet of the nineteenth century, was asked by his pupils, "Master what was it that helped you most in life to become such a remarkable poet?" he replied; "It is not for me to judge my own verses, but what helped me was that though I met several thousand women in my life; my eyes never saw but the one."

In every outstanding writer's work this central feminine image is to be found: the woman whom he sees all his life, gaining inspiration from it and ever finding in it new and inimitable traits. For Dante this woman was Beatrice, for Petrarch Laura, for Pushkin Tatiana Larina, for the Russian lyric poet Alexander Blok, the Beautiful Lady and for Leo Tolstoy Natasha Rostova.

The author's attitude to woman, the heroine of his books, is significant in determining his mood and ideological searchings.

'Active' And 'Positive'

During the twenty-six years the Soviet literature has developed in many languages spoken in the USSR; thousands of books and, consequently, thousands of types of women have been created.

In this brief article we would like to point out the more striking psychological and outward traits of the woman and her destiny: always drawn and and still drawing attention of most important writers of the different peoples in the USSR.

Who are these characters most memorable and, consequently who have been found most responsive to the readers' moods and tastes?

In the first place, they are, without exception, active and positive types. There is no place in Soviet literature for the woman who is indifferent to life and permits her path to be determined by the caprice of fortune; neither is there any place in Soviet life for her. Very likely such women exist, but they are so alien to the spirit of Soviet life that they simply escape notice.

Virenya is the heroine of Lydia Seifulina's novel—that name is of an active, energetic woman. Dasha, the most attractive of feminine types created by Alexei Tolstoy in his trilogy "Years of Trial" is extremely active. So is Basti, the heroine of the "Lady of collective farmer Basti" by the Azerbaijan poet named, Vurgun. Ailar, a daring Turkmenian girl Berdi Kerbabayev's poem is vigorous and active.

The heroine of Margarita Aliger's poem, "Zoye" is active. Thirst for activity distinguishes the feminine types in Leo Akwacheli's novel "Gvadi Bigva", Mariam Eliko and Naia.

With A Purpose

But the activity of these heroines is very far from the activity motivated by the self-interest that we recall in the women of the classics like Lady Macbeth of Kabanikha in Alexander Ostrovsky's "Storm". The Soviet heroine is not striving for activity without purpose, but only for activity which will allow her to display the finest qualities of a woman patriot, mother and comrade-in-arms of her husband and brothers.

The capacity for love, loyalty and unselfishness is characteristic of the women: these are qualities most notable in the Soviet heroines, Zoe Kosmodemyanskaya, Liza Chaikina, Ludmila Pavlichenko and, to turn to the older generation, Nadezhda Krupskaya and other women active among the Soviet people. They were devoted to their country, fought self-denyingly for those ideas that inspired them and believed passionately in the triumph of justice and happiness on earth. This is the type of the woman we encounter most frequently in the Soviet books.

Dasha, Zoe, Basti, Ailar and Mariam do more than dream: they try to embody their dreams in life. They are not to be daunted by difficulties, for there can be no struggle without difficulties. They want to be happy as all women do, but they know only too well that one can only be happy when others are happy as well. That is why they are prepared for any sacrifice, for any tribulations; they are unafraid of death because death may be happiness itself if it is demanded for the achievement of victory.

Zoe Kosmodemyanskaya, the Moscow partisan school girl, cried out as she died at the hands of the German hangmen: "I am glad to die for my people." Her dying words might be repeated by the best women in the Soviet Union and, consequently, by all the more truthfully drawn heroines of the Soviet books.

Did You Happen To Know That:

COTTON in such natural colours as black, red and green has been raised on Soviet experimental farms.

OVER 6,000 doctors in Holland have temporarily given up their work rather than submit to compulsory membership in a Nazi medical organisation.

BEESWAX is used as a protective coating for practically all types of ammunition because it neither expands in tropical heat nor cracks in extreme cold.

RATIONING and reduction of the rubber content of tyres have saved Great Britain, on civilian tyres alone during the past year, the rubber equivalent of 700,000 giant tyres.

AMERICAN planes have synchronised bomb-release mechanisms so that the bombs can be photographed at every stage of their flight and by means of a flash bomb the target is illuminated at the precise moment they strike.

OVER 1,500 Indian doctors and physicians regularly receive a scientific medical newsletter distributed by the U.S.O.W.I.

AVERAGE torpedo weighs 3,000 pounds, contains 5,000 parts and costs Rs. 40,000.

BATTLESHIPS of the U. S. Navy are named for states; cruisers for cities and territories; destroyers for officers and men of the Navy, statesmen, inventors and former Secretaries of the Navy; submarines for fish and other denizens of the deep; and aircraft carriers for battles and famous Early American ships.

REDUCED size and thickness of bus and tram tickets in London diminishes paper consumption by 600 tons annually.

POSTWAR passenger planes will carry 100 persons, travel 300 miles per hour, have telephone and telegraph communications to the ground, individual compartments, a la carte meals.—U.S.O.W.I.

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AMERICA AND EMPIRE

U. S. Relations With Post-War China Depend Upon Her Attitude To Imperialism

The war is still too far from being won for us to be able to foresee with anything like accuracy the shape of the future. Still, it is not as vague as it was six months ago.

There is no doubt, now, unless Japan plays tricks on us, that we shall win the war. By we, I mean actually the United States and Britain, unless Russia demands in the peace a share comparable to that which she has played in the war. In this case the future resumes its vagueness. But if it is presumed that both China and Russia will be occupied mainly with their own reorganization after the war—if, in actual terms, the future will be shaped primarily by the United States and Britain—what relation will that future have to post-war China?

The War Within

The vagueness still depends upon who wins in our two countries. For the war which is being waged around the world is also being waged, if not so spectacularly at least with intensity, within our countries. We all know that it is still possible to win the war in the world and lose it in our two countries.

We might lose the war inside the United States by adopting Churchill's suggestion that we make a basic union with the British Empire. If we allied ourselves with the British Empire in anyway whatsoever that would correspond to what Mr. Churchill suggests, we should force three fourths of the world's people to believe that we believe in empire—that is, that we believe in the rule of the few over the many, that we believe in the superiority of one race over another—that is, of the white race over the non-white races—that we believe in the superiority of one nationality over another—that is, of the British-American nation over all others. The undemocratic minds of both our nations would be in the seats of power, and, having conquered the enemies of democracy abroad, our soldiers would come back disarmed and weak only to find these here at home.

If the future should take this shape—and I wish I were as sure that it would not as I am that the United Nations will vanquish the Axis—then our relations to post-war China would be very complex indeed. For in China the United States and England have always been two very separate nations and the old paradox of the lion and the lamb lying down together would be comprehensible beside the paradox of our union with England.

We Americans have always repudiated Empire over colonial peoples. Our few lapses in that direction have not only gone against our national grain but they have bored us very much, so that the Philippines, for example, were never worth to us what they have brought us or cost us. We have never developed the quality of enjoying rule over others. Dining alone in formal evening dress in the jungle has always seemed to Americans slightly ridiculous. We could never take ourselves seriously enough for that. An empire that had to be maintained at such cost as a stiff shirt bosom on a tropical night would be more trouble to us than it was worth, I am not afraid that we would ever go to such pains to maintain our imperial superiority to naked and semi-naked peoples, who after all simply exhibit their common sense in not putting on extra garments in a hot climate.

We Americans are as full of common sense as Hottentots, and permanently in hot climates even as rulers I fear we would tend to comfort instead of state, and no empire can be built and maintained on comfort. When I consider this tendency towards common sense which, combined with humour, makes up nine tenths of our national character, I confess to a feeling of reassurance. I am inclined to say that we will never commit ourselves to the folly of empire.

Imperialism—American Brand!

But it may be that we shall devise a sort of empire of our own, an empire where we rule not by force of state and white-ties but by a sense of humour, by comon sense and a shrewd business talent. It is true, I think, that we have never developed the taste for political domination over another people. But it is equally true that we do love business and through our love of business, accompanied by our unfailing good

************ PEARL S. BUCK, ************

friend of freedom and world-famous author, warns her countrymen in this frank article reproduced from "Asia and Americas":— "Were we to unite with Empire we would simply hasten the day of wars against us on a scale that we cannot now imagine....Empire is obsolete because more than half the world is determined to put an end to it."

humour and common sense, it is entirely possible that we might establish an empire as truly imperialistic as any England has ever devised. It is here indeed that England fears us.

England may come out of this war with her territory vastly increased, just as she came out of the last World War with a million square miles added to her empire. Then her safeguard against our business empire will be just the safeguard that she uses now against us in India and Africa—and in all her colonies—that our business concerns cannot enter her territories.

She will not, in short, suffer competition with us on any land under her rule. Only thus can she reap the benefits of her empire. Should she admit us to trade in her territories on anything like a basis of free competition she would find herself paying all the costs and pains of government—and we holding all the bags of gold. It would never do.

Therefore, taking it for granted that we will *not* become a part of the British Empire as Churchill invites us to become, taking it for granted, after the efforts of our forefathers in 1776, that we *will* continue to exist as a separate and independent nation, there still remains the danger that we ourselves will establish an empire of business domination, as we have done to some extent in South America.

There are signs of such interest here already among the building associations of our great business heads. They are looking at China with speculative eyes these days. Groups of American merchants are combining at this very moment with the avowed purpose of developing China's industries. I hope it is not with the complacent amiability of large sleek tom cats surveying a barn full of mice.

China Is Angry

China of course must industrialize herself. No one knows that better than the Chinese. They have resisted the knowledge steadily for a generation, always hoping that there would be the sort of world in which they could continue to be a peaceful agricultural people upon their own soil. But the League of Nations Commission to Manchuria under Lord Lytton finally convinced them that such a world was only a dream. Japan they knew was predatory. Japan they expected would seize territory not her own. But when the League Commission condoned the seizure, as in spite of fair words it really did, then they knew that they had to arm themselves to live in a lawless world where not only enemies were rapacious. If they needed any further proof of this they have had it over and over again in the conduct of this war.

For China has now been relegated so often that if you wish to understand how Chinese feel about it you have only to read Lin Yutang's last book, "Between Tears And Laughter." This is not the book of one angry man—it is the voice of a whole angry people. Do not think for one moment that the Chinese Government would not stop Lin Yutang or the Chinese people repudiate Lin Yutang if they wanted to do so. The Chinese Government and people agree with him and encourage him.

"Never Again"!

China knows now that she cannot any longer remain a peaceful agricultural people. How she will industrialise is the only question. It is already partially clear to us that we ourselves are determining the answer to that question. So long as we proceed on the basis of regarding this as a purely military war, so long as both Churchill and Roosevelt steadfastly maintain that the war must be won before there can be talk of what the peace will be, China's industrialization will be forced toward large industry, government-controlled, in order that above all else China can be quickly militarized. If you could peer into any Chinese brain to-day beyond that of an idiot's—and there are amazingly few idiots in China—you would see a common determination. "Never again", they are all thinking, "must be caught without a great navy, a great army, a great air force, which we can create and maintain from our own resources." That is, China is determined to arm herself against anybody, and, if need be, everybody. Clarence Budington Kelland's notion of making the Pacific an American lake is no more far-sweeping, although considerably more preposterous, than China's plans for militarization.

I will not take space here to dwell upon the folly of allowing a world situation to develop which forces to militarism the most populous peoples of the world upon the greatest territories, who have hitherto been, to our great good fortune, peaceful agricultural peoples. I shudder to think what the future will be with Russia established as indeed she already has been, as the world's greatest military force, when China establishes herself, as she will undoubtedly do, as another great military force, when the people of India, freed by their own efforts, as they are determined to be free, will be a great potential power. To that future the businessmen of our nations are shortsightedly lending themselves as zealously as they once lent themselves to Japan, by sending iron and the materials of war to reap huge temporary profits. American money will build the Chinese war machines, because it will build the Chinese industrial system. To match the immense power of militarized eastern peoples we shall have to make ourselves supermen and superwarriors.

The Chinese Government facing the necessity of militarization—and I would not be fair to China if I did not stress the great unwillingness of the Chinese to this necessity—is trying to modify it to the extent of saying that while all basic industries should be under government control, other industries may remain small and in the hands of private ownership. The present plans call for just such compromise. But this can only be a sop at best to the development of small industries. For in order that militarization can grow as quickly as possible, all basic industries, electric power, mining, steel and iron, transportation and the making of machinery, must be in the hands of the government. These will constitute the most of Chinese industry for a long time to come and what is left over for small industry will be relatively unimportant.

The consumer market in China is not developed as it is here in our country. The people are used to living simply. A house built with hands, a few chairs and tables and beds, pottery dishes and bamboo chopsticks are enough for the average family. Even a clock is a luxury and an automobile is thought of only in connection with a few millionaires and government officials. The income of the average Chinese will have to be raised many times before a taste for luxury can be developed and this income will be raised primarily through large government-owned factories designed primarily for military production. It is inevitable, therefore, that much of China's labour will be swept into large industry almost without knowing it.

China And Democracy.

I deplore this with all my heart, for China is not ready for large industry. There are no effective laws to protect the working man, and it is inevitable that after the war the plight of the people will make them eager to find jobs at any wage. The very conception of the protection of women and children in industry will have to be developed, for it does not now exist. If China's industries begin in centralization there will inevitably be a long period of great human distress the more especially since the process of political democratization must proceed at the same time. China has not yet evolved the technique whereby the people can prevent even to a small degree their own exploitation. It is true that within this past month there has come the heartening news from the Chinese Government that it has definitely committed itself to democracy. That is, it has pledged itself to begin constitutional government within one year after the cessation of hostilities. This means a great deal. It means that a government admittedly tinged with Fascist possibilities has put itself on record before the world as repudiating those tendencies. But with the best of intentions on the part of the government, the Chinese people have a long way to go before they are safe from exploitation by industry, if

(Continued On Page 4)

THE WAR AND THE YOUNGER WRITERS IN BRITAIN

By JOHN LEHMANN

For the younger generation of writers, the under 40s, who were in Britain in September 1939, the four years of war conditions have brought many changes.

If one looks at the literary scene to-day and compares it with the scene in that last summer of peace which seems so far away, one finds that several young writers, who were active then, have now relapsed into silence; in a great many cases, the tendency, the mood of those who are still writing has changed; and a number of new writers, particularly poets, have come forward, whose aims seem, at first sight, to be markedly different from those of their predecessors.

It has been the gradual extension of mobilisation for total war which has been the chief cause of silence. Some writers joined the armed forces early on, and have found it difficult to achieve the concentration necessary for creative work in the middle of their duties. Others have been working in Government Departments, or on the B.B.C., and leisure has been severely restricted: the harassing daily routine work of an office under wartime pressure is not the kind of background which encourages the production of a literary masterpiece. Nevertheless many of these authors have continued to write, though their output has been much smaller; as with the newcomers, poetry has been their chief—though not their only—activity.

The Reason

It is easy to understand this. A poem can be written in a shorter time than a novel or a serious critical work; it can be worked on between manoeuvres or sea voyages, between air raids, between office hours, and all its apparatus is a pencil and a piece of paper. It is also the natural vehicle of expression at a time of heightened emotion and ever-present danger, and when—as in war—the fundamental loyalties are uppermost in men's minds.

The change in the theme chosen, the mood communicated, has been due, I think, to more complex causes, many of which it may be difficult to assess until the war is behind us. One important thing, however, can be found in the evolution of the attitude towards political and social action of these younger writers. For many years before the war their interest in politics had been growing. Their hatred of Fascism, the deep anxiety they felt as they saw Europe accelerating towards war, brought many of them to believe that only by radical action on the part of the whole community, themselves included, could disaster be averted. For a time revolutionary dogma had a powerful appeal for them, and this produced, as often before, an impatient and visionary optimism, strongly reflected in their work.

Major Trends

The outbreak of war shattered many of their hopes and their beliefs. As time went on and the true nature of the world crisis revealed itself, and the peril and historic opportunity of Britain became more sharply illuminated, their preoccupation with party political or economic issues of the moment gave way to deeper, more permanent and more purely human problems. If one is looking for patriotic enthusiasm, in the cruder sense of the word, one will not find it in their work; but one will find a new assumption, the sense of a community united in a common purpose, so completely accepted that scepticism, pity, horror at human suffering can play over it without affecting its strength.

This preoccupation with the human side of the conflict is also characteristic of the work of many of the poets who have recently begun to make their names. The revolt against the ideas of Day Lewis, Spender, MacNeice, which their protagonists have made much of, is more theoretical than real; they are attacking a position which the poets of the thirties may be said already to have abandoned.

The poetry, for instance, of Alun Lewis, one of the most gifted of the new generation, is at times strongly reminiscent of Stephen Spender's recent work. This is not, of course, true of all, and there is great variety of temperament and style among them: such poets as Laurie Lee, Terence Tiller, Nicholas Moore, Alex Comfort, Norman Nicholson, Vernon Watkins and Peter Yates already have distinct personalities as well as promise of interesting development in the future. Nevertheless, the differences between the generations are less than the iconoclastic impatience of youth may be inclined to claim.

Those In The Forces

One of the most interesting and accomplished of the poets writing at the moment is Roy Fuller. He has been in the Fleet Air Arm for over two years, and his poems have been for many serving men the most eloquent and poignant expression of the tragedy of the war and the supreme reality of human relationships as they have felt it. Fuller had begun to write some years before the war, and his early poetry was deeply influenced by Auden and Spender; his active service has brought a striking new simplicity and intensity to his work. He and Alun Lewis, who is now an officer in the army overseas, have attracted the most attention of the poets in uniform, though several who showed considerable promise, among whom Sidney Keyes and Gervase Stewart were outstanding, have most unhappily been killed in action.

Two Tendencies

Poetry is undoubtedly very much alive in Britain at the moment. A great deal of bad poetry is being written, but the impulse is so strong, and the experiments are so diverse, that one cannot help feeling optimistic about the future.

There are two tendencies in particular which encourage me in this hope. The first is the renewed interest which is being shown in long poems, or series of poems. Cecil Day Lewis has recently published a beautiful sonnet sequence on childhood and youth; George Barker has also just published a striking sonnet sequence in "Horizon": Stephen Spender has been working on a number of long, elaborate Odes; Roy Fuller's "Teba," Terence Tiller's "Birth of Christ", Peter Yates's "Motionless Dancer" are a few among many examples of long and highly wrought poems in the work of the new poets.

The second tendency is the return to strong technical structure, a renewed feeling for the subtleties of music and texture. This is just beginning; it is by no means a flight to an empty classicism, but an infusion of classical form with modern feeling and modern rhythms. The next few years in Britain may yield much that is exciting for those who care deeply about poetry.

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AMERICA AND EMPIRE

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indeed any people can be said to be safe.

Illiteracy must be mended and the extremes of poverty changed to something like fair standards of living. Starving homeless, war-ravaged people cannot be politically free if not economically free. Inflation in China is to-day fantastic. A Chinese friend recently preparing to come to this country found that a suit of clothes made of foreign woollen goods by a Chinese tailor in Chungking would cost him 8,000 dollars. He wore his old suit he had bought in America fourteen years before and his wife mended the hole in the seat of the trousers with the vest and vestless he flew across the world.

The conclusion of all this can be no true conclusion for the world is too much in flux and the future still too vague. Certain large hopes may be maintained—we are going to win the war over the Axis and that gives strength to democracy everywhere. China's declaration for a constitutional government is perhaps one fruit of that military certainty. But the war for the freedom of peoples is never won on a field of military battle. It is won bit by bit in every nation or it is lost bit by bit in the same way.

If we decide for domination and empire, if we ally ourselves with the British Empire in any peculiar way, then in the eyes of other peoples we become part of the British Empire, and against that empire all will begin desperately to arm themselves and such militarization can only be accomplished by the sort of ruthless military process which Russia used after the first World War.

If on the other hand, we Americans follow our own genius in friendly relations with all and close alliance with no one above another, then the millions in Asia and Africa—yes, I believe in Russia, too—will breathe more freely and move more slowly.

Those who now urge us to ally ourselves with empire for our own safety do not know the world beyond our own and Europe's boundaries They do not understand that were we to unite with empire in any sort of alliance we would simply hasten the day of wars against us on a scale that we cannot now imagine. They do not know that empire is obsolete, because more than half the world is determined to put an end to it. We would be allying ourselves with something that is already doomed.

Our relations to post-war China, then, depend entirely on our relations to empire. The very shape of the China to come depends upon our answer to Mr. Churchill's invitation. I hope George Washington's spirit now rises restless from the grave, that Jefferson speaks loudly from the dead, that John Brown's soul still keeps bravely marching on.

Japs' Token Invasion Of Imphal Plain

Allied Bombers Force Them To Flee To Naga Hills

IMPHAL FRONT, March 30

For the first time, the Japs entered Imphal plain, about ten miles out last evening, states D. R. Mankekar, Associated Press of India War Correspondent.

They found the plain too hot for them, and left in a hurry. The Japanese force was estimated to number several hundreds, accompanied by about a hundred mules. Immediately their presence in the area was detected, our artillery opened fire on them, while almost simultaneously about 25 Hurricane bombers went over and gave the enemy a terrific pasting.

Vengeance dive-bombers followed to give the finishing touches to the job. Within an hour of the report of their presence in the edge of the plain, the enemy had cleared out withdrawing into the neighbouring Naga Hills.

This morning I "jeeped" north-east from Imphal twelve miles down the Ukhrul Road—only about four miles from Tamnapokpi, the scene of the fighting yesterday. As my jeep neared the fighting line, I came upon a stream of evacuees—their belongings on their heads. In armpits or handcarts and bullockcarts, women carrying their children slung on their backs with clothsheets. Then I came across a ' tch of hundred Indian soldiers coming towards Imphal. Among them were Mahrattas. I talked to the Subedar who bears the historic Mahratta name of Bhonsle and two of his compatriots. They told me they had trudged sixty miles through jungle without halt for four days and nights. But I found them full of cheer. They had taken part in an action with the Japs thirty-five miles up the Ukhrul road five days ago. I greeted them in Marathi and offered them cigarettes, and they informed me that they had killed 200 Japs in that action.

With the enemy a dozen miles away, the 36-year-old Maharaja of Manipur State—now the cynosure of news on the Burma War Front—assured me to-day in an exclusive interview: "I and my people will fight the Jap to the last, if he ever attempts to get here. My place is here, by the side of my people" His Highness declared, "It shall not be said of me that I deserted my people and my sacred family deity and ran away."

The Maharaja has lived here through the bombings that Imphal has suffered from. He laughingly related to me an amusing incident during one of the bombings two years ago, when he was stopped by the military police and was demanded to show his identity card which he never had. Since then, the ruler of the State too carries with him an identity card wherever he goes.

The Maharaja recently announced his intention to his durbar of marrying a third wife as an "antidotal" measure against his bad stars on the advice of his pandits.—A.P

ALLIED WAR COMMUNIQUE

In the western foothills, bordering the coastal plain south of Maungdaw our artillery shelled some Japanese movement during the course of the 31st March, says to-day's Allied War Communique.

Our troops have advanced to the south of the western tunnel where they captured some Japanese positions on the 30th March. Meanwhile, on the high ground between the tunnels hard fighting continues and our artillery successfully engaged a party of enemy. Elsewhere in this area, our pressure against the enemy continues.

"NUISANCE RAIDS"

In the eastern foothills, to the west of Htindaw the enemy put in a number of small nuisance raids during the night of the 29/30 March, but these were all repulsed.

East of the Kalapanzin our troops supported by tanks have captured two positions in the defences around the enemy locality on the river bank north of Buthidaung. The enemy still remain in this locality and offer stiff resistance. A Japanese detachment in the foothills in this area was dispersed by fighter aircraft.

On the Tiddim Road, activity has decreased. Only at one point is contact reported with the enemy in any strength.

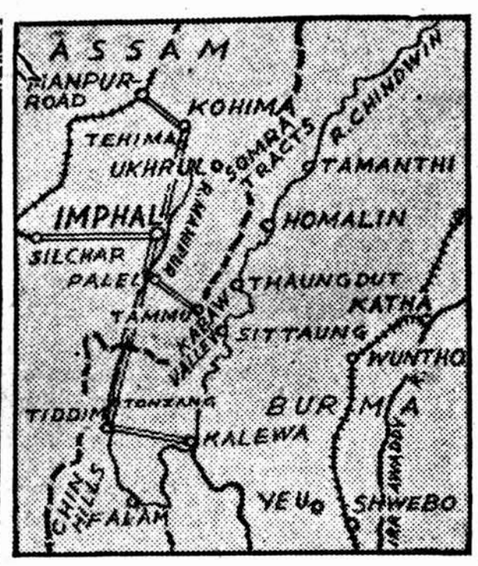
ENEMY AMBUSH

On the Palel-Tamu Road, the enemy carried out one successful small ambush on the night of the 29-30 March. On the following day, our artillery were in action against the Japanese hold on the upper road midway between Palel and Tamu. Enemy artillery was again in action against our troops

The enemy in the neighbourhood of Sukhrul has made some further advance to the west at the cost of heavy casualties. In the hill tracts to the east of Kohima, severe fighting continued throughout the 30th and 31st March

CHINESE ADVANCE SOUTH

Forward elements of the Chinese



22nd Division continue pushing south in the Mogaung Valley from Shaduzup toward Larban.

In the Fort Hert area levies pushing the Japanese south along the Sumprabum-Myitkyina Road below the Daru River are south of Kadrangyang.

Medium bombers of the strategic air force, eastern air command, on 31st March successfully attacked Pinlebu.

Fighters of the Tactical Air Force on 30/31 March were active over the Arakan, Mayu and Kaladan areas while dive-bombers, fighter-bombers and fighters maintained their offensive against objectives in the Chin Hills, Chindwin Valley and North-West Burma.

From all these operations no Allied aircraft is missing.

Jap Advance Towards Imphal Checked

NEW DELHI, April 1

Prolonged and desperate attempts by a large Jap force to surround and overrun one of our defensive positions on the Sukhrul-Imphal road were resisted by the Punjabis, Mahrattas and Gurkhas over a period of four days fighting, writes an Indian army observer.

The heroic resistance put up by our troops has effectively checked the initial speed of the Jap advance towards Imphal from the north-east.

HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING

The bitter fighting which has just ended involved frequent hand-to-hand and bayonet encounters. The enemy attacked in waves and, it is believed, a large part of the Jap force committed to the task has either been killed or wounded.

The brunt of the attacks was largely borne by the Punjabis who, after much sticky fighting, finally turned the tables on the Japs. A few hours after, they joined the much harassed and vastly out-numbered Mahrattas and Gurkhas already engaged in fighting back the enemy.

The Japs then put in their main attack on the position. In the night

(Continued On Page 12)

NO SIGN YET OF 'BATTLE FOR IMPHAL'

"Spasmodic Cutting Of Road, If And When Done Only Of Nuisance Value

By D. F. KARAKA "Chronicle" War Correspondent

IMPHAL FRONT, MARCH 29TH EVENING: During last 24 hours not very much has happened in the shape of action. The two main movements on this front are of the Jap columns proceeding, one towards Kohima, the other from Ukhrul, more towards Imphal. Though this Jap column has advanced in terms of mileage, it is still mixed up with hilly countryside and is difficult to get at and strike. In other words, there is not yet any signs of what may be called "The Battle For Imphal"; and it is possible this battle may not come off as directly as one would have thought it would. The Jap may shirk the contact and this column may fork more directly westward with a view to cut the Kohima-Imphal road. It is a long winding road of 86 miles and the major part of the road is wound round endless series of hills. Kohima which is at the north end of the road is 4,700 feet high. It is the administrative centre of the district. Kohima may be compared to a small Swiss village, though the resemblance disappears the moment you see its inhabitants who are Nagas. These Nagas live in bamboo-huts with plaster over them. They usually pick a spot on top of the hill on which to build their village for the obvious reasons of natural defence. To reach one village one has to climb an endless series of steps at the end of which you get to a heavy wooden door, black with age, presumably stuck in a wall. After the door come another lot of steps and then another door. Then comes a man-driven hole in a large rock just enough for one person to get through and then the village itself. Around Kohima there are even higher hills, one of them being about 9,000 feet high, on which at certain times of the year snow can be seen. The 86 odd miles of this road from Kohima to Imphal is a feat of engineering—so it appears to the average man as he goes smoothly over it. If I understood a certain sign correctly credit for it must go to the Bengal Sappers and Miners who built it. The length and winding shape of the road and the adjoining hilly terrain make it difficult for anyone to avoid infiltration on to it at some point or the other. In other words the Jap seems more likely to head for the road first in preference to Imphal proper because from his point of view it would be better propaganda and Tokyo radio would be able to glorify the cutting of the road into a far greater achievement than the circumstances would warrant.

THE CRUCIAL POINT

This has to be stressed because the spasmodic cutting of the road is possible and may even occur in the near future. The crucial thing is the hanging on to that cut, and this is a different proposition. It must be conceded that such cutting would naturally have a nuisance value, but whether it would endanger the various boxes wherein Allied forces are solidly concentrated has yet to be seen. Allied air superiority has always ensured Allied forces of an alternative supply line, no matter at how many places the Japs may succeed in cutting the road temporarily. It seems extremely doubtful that the Jap will be able to maintain those cuts on the road, and as it were sit on them. If this were to happen they would be perfect targets for the Vultee Vengeances who have shown that they can dive-bomb on a pin-point. Moreo', all through such an eventuality the Jap would have a very difficult problem to maintain a supply line over the most hilly features, which would stand between the road and the Chindwin river.

This morning I went over with Mr. Sharp of B.B.C. and an official photographer to see a proper front line such as I had not seen before. There is no time for any funny business in that front line. In contrast with rigid discipline is the remarkable cordiality of the men and officers, both British and Indian. For me it has been quite exciting to see our own young Indian officers acquit themselves beautifully on that front line. And when I use the word "beautifully" it is because this word though somewhat inappropriate in describing army personnel is still the word which expresses what is in my mind. I met the boys of an Indian armoured squadron, the first of its kind to operate tanks in this Burma War. They were led by a young Indian Major. It was exciting to hear them tell us calmly and modestly of some of the recent engagements in which they had figured. When one thinks of these Indian boys once only the polished gentlemen of a Cavalry regiment in peace-time and now real tough war-scarred men in their battle dress, it seems to make an unbelievable difference. But war does that to you and the more I see of our young men in action here I feel a certain pride in belonging to that generation. It is a different feeling from an evening at the Cricket Club, thank God!

Churchill's Sledge-Hammer Tactics

(From A Special Correspondent)

LONDON, April 1.

Though Mr Churchill has succeeded in getting a vote of confidence in Parliament, yet it is generally felt that he used the sledge-hammer to ward off attack.

The "Daily Mirror" bluntly states: "What is the use of Parliament? Are people free to express opinions or are they as members of the Commons merely to be 'yesmen' of the Cabinet of the day which thus assumes a form of dictatorship alien to all our traditions? At that rate, Parliament might as well go out of business altogether."

Mr. A. J. Cummings today wrties: "Mr. Churchill again lost cast by bludgeoning Parliament into going back on its decision about equal pay in the teaching profession.

Plans For French Liberation

ALGIERS, April 1: Plans drawn up by the French National Committee of Liberation for the administration of France as various areas are liberated by the invasion have been communicated to the British, American and Soviet Governments.—A.P.

Allies Help Russians In Balkans

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES March 31.

A high air officer said to-day. "Our air attacks on the Balkans are linked not only with the Russian Advance but with the whole Balkan Situation"—Reuter.

Colombia Government Crush Uprising

NEW YORK, March 31: The Colombian Government announced today that troops have quelled an uprising in the town of "Purification" in the Colombian department of Tolima, says an Associated Press dispatch from Bogota.

The announcement added that the uprising was part of "a concerted general revolutionary activity in Colombia which was scheduled to start last night."—Reuter.

Torpedo Attack On German Troopship

LONDON April 1.

Two torpedo hits were scored by coastal command Beaufighters on a 14,000-ton German troopship the former liner 'Monte Rosa' off the Norwegian coast on Thursday night, the British Air Ministry announced yesterday.—Reuter

ANEY ON "SALVATION" OF INDIA AND CEYLON

COLOMBO, March 30: The need for a joint Indo-Ceylon effort for the attainment of a status of dignity of both the countries in post-war world was emphasised by Mr. M. S. Aney, Government of India's representative in Ceylon, speaking on "India and Ceylon" at a meeting here. Mr. Aney said: "If a combined effort is made by India and Ceylon our slavation becomes nearer and definite".—A P

COLOMBO: Dr. Thomas Wood, musician and author who in his own words "knew and loved Ceylon twelve years ago", has recently arrived from England and on 27th March gave a broadcast talk from Colombo radio station.

RAILWAY FARES MAY NOT GO UP

NEW DELHI APRIL 1.

Enquiries made here show that the 'status quo' with regard to railway fares will continue until the Government of India's final decision on the Assembly vote against proposal for a twenty-five per cent. increase is made know.

An official announcement may be made early next week, and lobby anticipations are that Government will not entirely ignore the Assembly vote.—A. P.

WAVELL GIVES ASSENT TO IT

NEW DELHI, April 1.

A press note says:—The Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the first day of April 1944 was assented to by the Governor-General on the 31st March and thereby became an Act.

On the same date, the Governor-General, under the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 67-B, as set out in the Ninth schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, directed that the Act should come into operation forthwith.

IRANIAN MISSION CONCLUDES TOUR

Leader Pleads For Closer Co-operation With India

MADRAS, March 31.

A tribute to the excellent morale of the Indian people, a profound admiration for the progress made by the educational and cultural institutions in India in spite of war conditions, and a fervent hope for closer collaboration in the cultural sphere between Iran and India are contained in a lengthy statement issued today by His Excellency Ali Ashgar Himat, leader of the Iranian Cultural Mission at the conclusion of the Mission's tour in India.

Hoping that the present mission would be a prelude to many such contacts, the leader thanked the Government and the people of India for the welcome and said: "Brief as our stay in this country has been we have learnt many things and made many contacts which we hope will prove of the highest value in furthering the object of our Mission, namely that the two great and ancient nations of India and Iran which have sprung from a common stock and have a common cultural hertage should renew and revitalise their century old ties and as in the past make yet another lasting contribution to civilisation and humanity after the war.

He hoped that before long it would be possible for a Cultural Mission from this country to proceed to Iran which would be received with open arms.

The leader expressed his gratefulness to the 'Great Indian Press' for its interest and co-operation and hoped that the Indian Press would pull its full weight in bringing the two sister nations closer and ever closer.—A. P.

Businessmen To Vote On Proposals For World Order

WASHINGTON, March 27.

The United States Chamber of Commerce, a private organisation of American industrialists and businessmen, this week made public a report submitted by its Committee on Post-war Problems advocating that the United Nations—"as trustees of the peace"—establish immediately a commission that would be the forerunner of a permanent organisation for the "maintenance of international peace and security."

The report, which now goes before the chamber's board of directors who will then distribute copies to the chamber's 1,900 member organisations, contains six proposals which businessmen will be asked to support by a referendum vote. The proposals are:

1. Prompt United Nations consideration of specific political, economic and social questions which may be solved or planned before the cessation of hostilities.

2. Exercise of "interim powers" by the United Nations to "prevent further resort to arms by the defeated enemy and restore and maintain a regime of freedom under international law and order."

3. U.S. participation in the earliest possible establishment of "instrumentalities for Pacific settlement of international disputes by means of conciliation and conference."

4. Continuation of U.S. membership in a permanent court of international justice and strengthening of such a court for the interpretation of treaties and application of accepted rules of international law.

5. Maintenance of a permanent court of arbitration "whose services should be available to all nations."

6. Creation of a permanent international institute to "study and report to the international and national bodies on problems of developing the principles and procedures of international justice."—USOWI.

FAILURE OF ANSCHLUSS

Austria's Longing For Freedom

On the night of March 11, 1938, the newly expanded German Army made its first excursion across the frontier into Austria.

In a matter of days the country was overrun and the Anschluss became an accomplished fact. Without encountering either national resistance or effectual counter-action from abroad, Hitler had won one of his most decisive political and strategical victories of the pre-war period. The may of Europe was changed but that was not all.

More important to the Germans than their territorial gain was the proof supplied by the absorption of Austria that bloodless conquest was a practical proposition. It convinced them that the methods they had adopted to further the theory of peaceful war would at least enable them to realise the short-term aims of imperialism. The occupation of the Rhineland two years previously was not looked upon as a proper test but rather as a rehearsal of this policy.

Conclusive Evidence

Austria's case was different and their success appeared to the Germans to provide conclusive evidence that the policy of armed preparedness with the support of a strong minority judiciously screened by voluble professions of peaceful intent was sufficient to hoodwink a lethargic world and nullify its schemes for international security.

Austrians themselves soon came to realise that the Anschluss had not been carried out in fulfilment of the sentimental idea, nor merely to give their country, as of right, its place within the new Reich. Hitler's plans for Austria differed substantially from the dreams cherished by Austrian National Socialists and others who had advocated a union with Germany.

German intentions were symbolised in one of the first acts on taking over the country—suppression of its ancient name and its redesignation as Mark.

The Germans lost no time in making the change-over effective. Hard upon the invasion came a stream of bureaucrats from Germany to administer the new province. They are there to-day, at least 40,000 of them, holding every type of civil office from key positions to Mayoralties of quite small towns.

Austrian National Socialists, on the other hand, were posted abroad at first to jobs in Germany and later to other territories in German occupation. The Austrian Party machine too was overhauled and brought under the control of Germans. Simultaneously, Austria's industries came under the German supervision while a programme of industrial expansion was set on foot, entirely new enterprises being founded with German capital and under purely German management. The process of Germanisation was thorough and far-reaching.

New Call To Life

This wholesale and ruthless usurpation of their independence has had its effect on the Austrian people. Where Dollfuss and Schuschnigg and Austro-Fascism had failed, German National Socialism has succeeded. Austrian reaction to the German rule has become politically manifest in the growth of a vigorous national feeling which in addition to being profoundly anti-German sows a positive trend in the direction of Democracy based on sovereign independence. Austrians generally have learnt their lesson and union with Germany, which once found favour even among those having no National Socialist affinities is more loathed than liked today.

The Moscow declaration by great Powers was a new call to life denouncing the Anschluss and affirming the right of the Austrian nation to be restored to independence. Austria's reorganisation within the free world will one day become a major problem of European security with bearings extending beyond the central zone only. The task of ensuring and safeguarding the permanence of Austria's independence will be rendered more formidable by reasons of political and economic alterations the country has undergone during the period of the German domination.—("The Manchester Guardian").

WOMEN WEPT IN STREETS

Eye-Witness Account Of Hungary's Occupation

The Hungarians to-day are broken, bitter and a savagely bewildered people.

Eye-witness stories of Germans marching are beginning to reach us in Stockholm. They tell of women weeping in the streets as the Germans occupied their country. They paint a picture of a people hating their own Allies, fearful of the Russians and the vengeance they may wreak if they enter the country, yet helpless and important to avert the certain ruin that approaches.

"The Germans pounced at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning", said an eye-witness who has arrived in Stockholm from Budapest by plane. "The first thing we knew about the invasion was when great troo-carrying planes and gliders came roaring over and hundreds of parachutists dropped from the skies. I was sitting with a Hungarian General just before the Germans came. He knew nothing about it and ran out in amazement when the people shouted, 'The Germans are coming.'

Wild Rumours

"At first a wild rumour went round that the parachutists were Russians. Then someone thought they were Allied parachutists. There had been constant rumours about British parachutists landing in various places in Central Europe. During the night barges loaded with German troops were set down the Danube from Austria. When they reached Budapest and other Hungarian towns on the river, the troops sprang out and made contact with Hungarian Nazis.

"Other German troops gained access to Hungary by crowding into troop trains which were supposed to be going straight through to the Russian front. Instead the trains were stopped at vantage points and the troops fanned out across the country."

"The Sunday morning when I left my hotel in Budapest, I found three German soldiers posted outside my door and machine-guns all round", said another eye-witness. "The Hungarians walked about disconsolately wandering what had happened. The papers said nothing. No one knew anything. Some people said, 'Perhaps the Russians will soon be hear.'

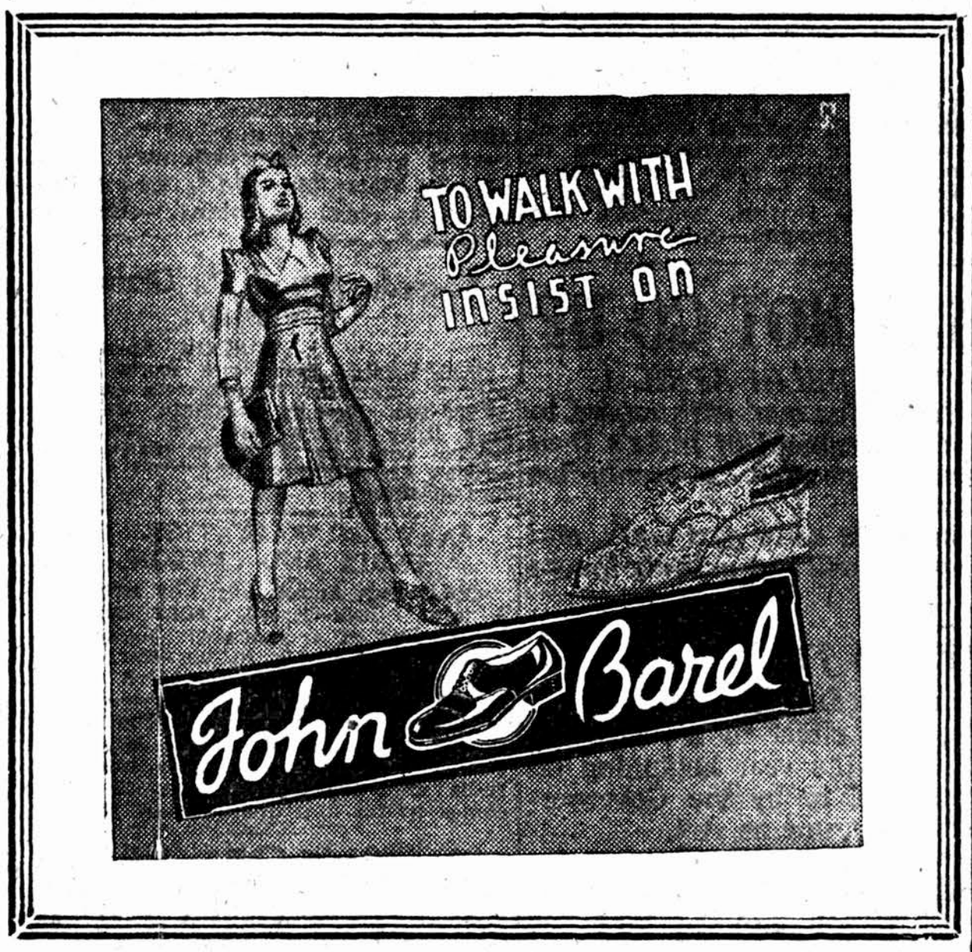
"On Sunday comparatively few Germans showed themselves in Budapest but on Monday many units came pouring in swamping everything, raiding shops, buying up everything but behaving politely. No tanks or mechanised units entered the city.

City Of Glooms

"When I left on Monday Budapest was a city of gloom. Women were weeping. The Swastikas fluttered from many big buildings. German papers were beginning to appear. At the Budapest Central Station S.S. troops and Hungarian Nazis with Gestapo officials searched everyone. But there were not many travellers. The Germans made it clear that they were looking for Jews. The train I caught was the Orient Express, but it is not called that any more. It is spoken of like any other German train. It does not deserve its old name because it is a very ragged train in these days—no good meals, little comfort or service. Moving through Hungary I saw considerable concentrations of German mechanised units, tanks, armoured cars and small and large calibre guns.

"Before leaving Budapest I was told that the Regent, Admiral Horthy, after being lured away to Hitler's Headquarters to prepare a way for the march in has been sent back to the capital and was held prisoner at the castle Der Hurg, guarded by the Germans.

"I heard of several isolated actions among the Germans and the Hungarians in the country outside Budapest."—"The Daily Mail".)



FOOD SITUATION IN BOMBAY PROVINCE

Inconsistent Official Statements

Mr. Dinkar Desai, of the Servants of India Society, writes:—

It is extremely surprising that inconsistent statements are made by the Government of Bombay with regard to the food situation in the province.

His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, addressing a durbar at Ratnagiri on the 26th March, is reported to have said: "The production of cereals in Ratnagiri District is estimated at about 130,000 tons. Consumption, on the basis of the 1941 census, is reckoned at 175,000 tons at the rate of three and a half Bengal maunds per person per year. The deficit for the year may, therefore, be taken to be about 45,000 tons." It is thus clear that His Excellency thinks that three and a half Bengal maunds of cereals per person per year is adequate to satisfy the minimum human needs. Whether this quantity is adequate or not is a quite different matter which may not be discussed here. But assuming for the sake of argument that this quantity is sufficient, we find that the province of Bombay, to our great relief, becomes a surplus area in the case of cereals! The annual production of cereals, according to official figures, was never less than 30 lakhs tons in Bombay province during the last ten years. These 30 lakhs tons of cereals, on the basis of three and a half maunds per person per year, would be adequate to feed about 233 lakhs of people. But the 1941 census shows that Bombay province had a population of only 208 lakhs. Even assuming that since 1941 the population has increased at the unusual rate of two per cent per year, we should have a population of about 220 lakhs in 1944. The logical conclusion is that Bombay province becomes a surplus area instead of a deficit one!

But this logical conclusion is not accepted by Government. Only the other day, Mr. H. F. Knight, Adviser to the Governor, stated that Bombay province is a deficit area, the deficit amounting to 6 lakhs of tons per year. Thus what His Excellency stated at Ratnagiri is not consistent with what the Adviser said at Bombay. The truth is that the quantity of cereals mentioned by His Excellency as adequate is not sufficient to satisfy the human needs. Hence this inconsistency.

Again, in their scheme for the procurement of the last Kharif crop, the Government of Bombay had announced in last October that in all districts "the Government will endeavour to buy at least 10 per cent of the millet crop" and 25 per cent of the total rice production. Mark the words "at least." Thus the plan was to obtain at least (not less than) 10 per cent of the millet crop. But to one's great surprise the recent announcement of the Government, published in the 'Bombay Information' of the local rice production. Mark the Government announced, when the last kharif crop was about to be marketed, that it would buy and build up reserves in each district upto a tenth of the millets and quarter of the rice produced in the district." Mark the words "up to a tenth" and "a quarter." This means that, under the kharif procurement scheme, Government's intention was to secure not more than ten per cent of the millets and not more than 25 per cent of rice. But what they had announced in last October was that not less than ten per cent of the millets and 25 per cent of rice would be procured. Thus the October announcement is not only inconsistent with, but contradictory to the announcement made in March.

Such inconsistent pronouncements are likely to create an impression in the public mind that Government themselves are not clear in what they propose to do or that Government do not place before the public what is in their mind in clear and unambiguous terms. That such an impression should be created, is not in the interest of solving the food problem in the province.

GURUKULA UNIVERSITY, KANGRI

Selection of new candidates for admission into the Gurukula University Kangri this year will be held from 7th April to 9th April, on the occasion of the Gurukula Anniversary. Gentlemen desirous of admitting their wards should send their application and obtain sanction at once. Rules and application forms, etc. can be had from the office of "Gurukula Kangri" (Saharanpur).

R. A. F. Destroy Enemy Ships

Nazi Attacks In Cassino Area Repulsed

Mediterranean Force Advance Headquarers, April 1: Today's Allied communibue says that Allied troops in the mountanious Central Sector have advanced about a mlie and occupied an important height. Two small German attacks in the Cassino area and one against British troops in the Bridgehead were repulsed with losses to the Germans.

Today's Mediterranean communigue says:—

LAND: In the mountanious central sector of the main front, our troops advanced about a mile and occupied an important height. Two small attacks against New Zealander positions in the Cassino area and one against British troops in the 5th Army Allied Bridgehead were repulsed with losses to the enemy.

AIR: Yesterday, bad weather curtailed air operations but fighter bombers attacked bridges at Roseto and Pedaso and shipping along the Dalmatian Coast. Fighters maintained patrols over the battle area. During the day two or our aircraft were lost.

Pedaso mentioned in to-day's Mediterranean communigue is a town on the Adriatic coastal railway line forty miles south of the naval base of Ancona and fifty miles ahead of Allied lines. Roseto is north of Pescara.

R.A.F. Beau fighters destroyed six supply ships in the Aegean.

Beaufighters attacked vessels at the islands of Calinos, Nios and Mykonos in Navarino harboour and in the Greek harbour of Kalamata. They destroyed at least six supply vessels. Wellington bombers made a night raid on Rhodes Harbour. From these and other operations one of our aircraft is missing."—Reuter.

R. A. F. Over South-West Germany

LONDON, April 1: Liberators bombed targets in South-West Germany to-day.

Alert In Zurich

ZURICH: An air raid alert was sounded in Zurich this morning (Saturday).—Reuter.

DEATH SENTENCE ON THREE INDIAN SOLDIERS

WARDHAGANJ, March 31.

On a charge of murdering a Village Patel and his son, three Indian soldiers were sentenced to death by the Sessions Judge, Wardha.

The prosecution case was that in November last, the accused robbed and shot the victims in the village of Digdoh, 15 miles from Wardha.

In passing the sentence, the Judge observed: "The crimes of the three accused, are indeed brutal. They appear to be of a desperate character and do not deserve any liniency. The accused have brought a slur on the name of their regiment."

Their Naik, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment for procuring stolen property and to two years' further imprisonment, under Section 3 of Ordinance 33 of 1943, for being unlawfully in possession of cartridges from His Majesty's store.—A. P

U. P. Congressmen Reaffirm Confidence In Gandhiji

LUCKNOW, March 31.

An informal meeting of Congress workers of Lucknow was held yesterday at which a committee was formed to collect funds and devise means to help the families of Congress workers in jail.

The meeting reaffirmed its faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and passed condolence resolutions expressing its sorrow at the deaths of Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi, Mr. R S. Pandit, Mr. Chandrabal Jauhari and Mr. P. P. Srivastava.—A P

CONGRESS PARTY'S RECORDS TO BE RETURNED

LAHORE, March 31: The Punjab Government have decided to release and return the records of the Punjab Assembly Congress Party, the Harijan Sewak Sangh (Punjab Branch) and the Servants of Peoples Society. These records were taken possession of by the police when the Lajpat Rai Hall in which the offices of the respective organisations were situated, was declared a notified area towards the end of August 1942.—A. P.

Shukla Deposits Rs. 3,500 As Securities

NAGPUR March 31: An order under the Press Emergency Powers Act was served yesterday on Mr. A. C. Shukla, by the Dist Magistrate asking him to deposit a sum of Rs. 2,000 as the printer and publisher of the "Nagpur Times", and a sum of Rs. 1,500 as keeper of the press. Both the securities were deposited this afternoon.—A. P.

U. S.-PERSIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

WASHINGTON April 1: President Roosevelt tonight announced the signing of a Trade Agreement between the United States and Persia.—Reuter.

Triple Soviet Drive On Odessa

Marshal Koniev's Threat To Retreating German Forces

MOSCOW, April 1.

A three-way Soviet drive on Odessa has been going on all through the night. To-day General Malinovsky's vanguards are only thirty miles north and north-east of the great Black Sea port.

The latest Soviet Communique says that the Kishinev-Jassy Railway line has been cut. The communique states that the Russians have captured Dunaevtsy.

(From Reuter's Special Correspondent)

The battle for Odessa appears likely to become another major catastrophe for the Germans. General Malinovsky's forces have made 18 to 20 mile advance towards the port, and occupied important points at an average of 35 to 42 miles from their objective. The retreating Germans are faced with an additional threat from Marshal Koniev's left wing operating east of the Dniester, where it is driving hard on Tiraspol, the clearing point of the Germans' single track escape lines. According to latest reports, the Russians are within 55 miles from the junction which constitutes the Germans' backdoor. While massing his forces on the left bank of the River Pruth, Marshal Koniev has temporarily deflected Basserabian operations southward and achieved his first objective by cutting the Kishinev-Jassy Railroad.

The capture of Ochakov announced by Marshal Stalin in the order of the day last night was a combined operation by Russian troops and marines. Black Sea marines also occupied the Island of Pervomaysk. The supplement also reports that in the fighting for Cernowitz, 1,500 Germans were killed, and 900 prisoners taken and that the booty included 14 railway trains. Two patrol vessels and two coastguard ships were sunk in Narva Bay (Gulf of Finland) by the Baltic Fleet Air Arm.

The Moscow radio to-day quoted a "Pravda" leader saying that the Japanese faith in "Hitler's mad plans" have been undermined by the Red Army victories aided by the British and American military operations. The "Pravda" adds, "the faith in the invincibility and strength of the German military machine has been undermined. The certainty of Hitlerite Germany's defeat and bankruptcy has become obvious. Hitlerite plans to isolate the Soviet Union fell through. The international position of the Soviet Union has become even stronger in the course of the war. A mighty anti-Hitlerite coalition of Three Great Powers has been created and has become stronger.

The successful completion of the negotiations between the Soviet Union and Japan on such important problems as those of the liquidation of the Japanese concessions before the time of their expiration and the Fishing Conventions testifies of the fact that both parties had shown goodwill and had striven in accordance with the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact to solve problems arising between them taking into account the interests of both states."

Hitler Forces Every German To Learn Shooting

Step Taken To Enable Everyone To Defend Fatherland

BERLIN, March 30.

The German news agency announced to-day "By an order of Hitler every man in greater Germany will have to learn to shoot and will be called up for this purpose. During this month and next, the S. A. will organise their training.

During their training everyone wherever he is, will have an opportunity to learn to shoot. Every German ready to defend his fatherland must show his readiness.

Those who distinguish themselves will receive awards from the S. A. Chief of Staff, Scheppmann".—Reuter.

Punjab Assembly League Party's Stand

LAHORE, March 29.

Clarifying the position of the Muslim League Assembly Party Shaikh Sadiq Hassan, M.L.A., in a statement says:

"In view of the misleading reports published in section of the press about the alleged great differences between Mr. Jinnah and the Punjab Premier, I should like to explain the correct position. The members of the Muslim League Assembly Party have recently had the benefit of hearing Mr. Jinnah's views on questions connected with the Party's constitutional position. As a result of the talks which Mr. Jinnah had with the leader and members of the Party, there is complete unanimity on the following fundamental points:

(1) That the Muslim League Assembly Party is the primary party in the Assembly and is subject to the rules and regulations of the Muslim League Parliamentary Boards (Central and Provincial)

(2) That this party is functioning in coalition with certain non-Muslim parties on the basis of a mutually agreed programme.

Besides, there are some other points which are still to be considered, but the sad and unfortunate death of Gen. Sir Umar Hyat Khan Tiwana has compelled the Premier to leave Lahore suddenly. In his absence it is not possible for the party to come to any decision.

The suggestions that the members of the Muslim League Assembly Party are not unanimous in their loyalty to their leader, the Premier, and that the leader is not loyal to the Muslim League, are without foundation.—A.P.

RUMANIAN PEACE MISSION MYSTERY

ANKARA, April 1: Princess Marthe Bibesco of Rumania who had been in Istanbul for the last six months left unexpectedly for Bucharest on Monday night. It is considered likely that she will inform Antonescu Government of the progress of Prince Stirbey's Peace Mission to Cairo, as the British personality who went with the Prince a fortnight ago to the Egyptian Capital has now returned to Istanbul.—Reuter.

BRITAIN WATCHING ACTIVITIES OF AXIS LEGATION IN DUBLIN

WESTMINSTER, March 31.

The position regarding the presence of Axis legations in Dublin is being very carefully watched, declared Mr. Paul Emrys-Evans, Under-Secretary for the Dominions to-day. Mr. Evans who represents Viscount Cranborne, the Dominion's Secretary in the Commons reiterated the British Government's view that the presence of these legations was "very undesirable." It would like to see them out of Ireland.

Mr Evans was speaking during a short debate on Britain's relations with Eire. On the question of partition of Ireland Mr. Evans said that on two occasions—in 1921 and 1925—partition was agreed to by Eire and had actually been embodied in a treaty Mr. Evans declared that it would not be too much to say that both from the point of view of strategy and the general war effort the separate existence of Northern Ireland had been a factor of greatest importance to Britain and her Allies.

Without Northern Ireland it would have been difficult if not impossible to protect shipping on which Britain's very life depended. "This war has shown more clearly than ever that the defence of these islands must be treated as a whole" Mr Evans added

Paying a tribute to the way the people of Northern Ireland had accepted the ban on travel to and from Britain, Mr. Evans said, "It is not possible to maintain a rigid control of the border to prevent leakage of information from Northern Ireland into Eire. It has, therefore, been necessary to take measures to prevent leakage in both parts of the island. The matter had been raised in the House by Professor Douglas Savory, Conservative member for Belfast University in Northern Ireland

He had criticised Government for agreeing in 1938 to hand over three magnificent harbours in Southern Ireland to Eire without any 'quid pro quo.' Northern Ireland, he said, had never disputed Eire's right as a dominion not to take part in this war, but he maintained it was 'ultra vires' for any part of the British Commonwealth to retain representatives of Axis Powers.—Reuter.

On Pacific Front

Truk Bombed Again

Allied Headquarters, South-West Pacific, April 1:—

Heavy bombers from the south-west Pacific have struck again at the area of Truk, the great Japanese Naval base in the Caroline islands.

General MacArthur's 'communique' to-day reports that bombers based on Solomons island made a dawn attack on fuel and storage areas in Dublon island, causing large fires.

A night attack was made by heavy and medium bombers on the aerodrome at Woleai and installations at Eauripik island, 60 miles to the south-west. Elements of Allied ground forces in Madang area of New Guinea have reached Mablubu three miles north of Daumoina, from Ramu Valley.

Ground forces on the coast have crossed Kambara river and have reached Gaube river.

In Admiralty islands, Allied ground forces supported by naval and air bombardment occupied Pityalu island. Two thousand-ton Japanese vessel at Simberi island on Tabar Group had to be beached when attacked by fighters.—Reuter.

EDITOR'S LETTER TO VICEROY

Full Text Not Available In London

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, March 31

Members of Parliament and other political circles deeply interested report the Indian Editors' letter sent to the Viceroy. But unfortunately when I asked them for their reaction their only comment was "How can we? We have not seen the text yet."

The Agency message merely said "Editors sent a letter to the Viceroy asking for the release of the imprisoned leaders." This looks mysterious. Why full text has not been made available to any one here? Moreover there is a keen desire to know what is the reply which the Editors received from the Viceroy.

THEY WILL AGITATE FOR VAIDYA'S RELEASE

LONDON, April 1: The Federation of Indian Associations in Great Britain in a Press Statement "deplores the decision of the War Office to imprison Suresh Vaidya and in not accepting his plea that his political convictions is a matter of conscience with him.

The Federation will carry agitation forward for his release and for exemption of Indian Nationals from conscription as part of its general activities."—Reuter.

All Accused In Sabotage Case Acquitted

WARDHA, April 1: Mr. J. K. Verma First Class Magistrate delivered judgment yesterday in the Khubgaon Sabotage Case arising out of the August disturbances of 1942 and acquitted all the twelve accused who were charged under Section 35 of the D I R..—United Press.

THREE ACCUSED JAILED

WARDHA, April 1: Three persons were arrested in connection with the Independence Day Celebrations and were sentenced to three months' R.I. by J. K. Verma First Class Magistrate, Wardha.—United Press.

SPANISH NAVAL DEFENCE MEASURES

LONDON, April 1: The Spanish radio said to-day that General Franco presided over a meeting of the Spanish Cabinet yesterday at which authority was given for naval defence measures.

The decrees passed included: (1) Work of modernisation on the 'Cruiser' Mendez Munez. (2) The manufacture of necessary armament for cruisers of the Galicia type. (3) The carrying out of modernisation work on the military arsenals of Cadiz and Cartagena and on the naval base of the Canary Island.—Reuter.

"BEHAR HERALD"

A number of new features have been introduced in the "Behar Herald", the well-known weekly journal published at Patna under the editorship of Mr M. C. Samaddar. Not only provincial topics but also those of All-India importance are discussed by various writers in its pages. In the issue before us, "Gleanings from the Gateway of India" by "Jemdy" deals with important events political, social, etc., taking place in Bombay week by week. There is also an interesting analysis of the "Jinnah Plan." International politics discussed in the issue by the "Reader" will also be found interesting

INDIAN CRICKETERS FOR CEYLON

COLOMBO, March 31.

The Committee of the Ceylon Cricket Association have decided to accept the proposal of the Honorary Secretary to the Board of Control for Cricket in India to send out a team of Indian cricketers to Ceylon.

The Committee have left for India to decide the most suitable date and length of the tour but have suggested tentatively that the period from January to March 1945 would be most acceptable to Ceylon.—A. P.

OUR TABULATED ADLETS

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SOCIAL

For Matrimony, Friendship, Trade other 441 hobbies, consult International Introduction Bureau, Aligarh. (4098)

Wanted:—Ladies and gentlemen of all nationalities, ages and professions for Pen and Personal friendship write to "Friends" 24|26 Ramghat, Benares (U.P.) (4481)

20. MATRIMONIAL

An Indian Christian of Nationalist views well established in own business desires to correspond with educated lady of any community, preferably Hindu, with object of marriage. Box No. 4516, "Bombay Chronicle."

42. SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted at Cawnpore a Mechanical Engineer for Foundry, Machine Shop, General Engineering and Structural Work, with not less than 10 years' first class certified experience, capable to supervise drawing and estimating. Apply stating salary to Box No. 8279, "Bombay Chronicle."

Efficient District Organisers. Pay Rs. 250|- P. M. Apply immediately Madanson & Co., Madan Mansions Sialkot City. 4478

Wanted:—(1) An experienced Trained Graduate Lady Teacher (History Specialist) for a Girls High School in Bombay from June 1944. Salary ranging from Rs. 100|- to Rs. 150|- according to qualifications and experience. (2) A Part-Time Trained Lady Teacher for French from June 1944. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Apply in in own handwriting before 10th April. Box No. 4411, "Bombay Chronicle.

141. EDUCATIONAL ADLETS

Membership (M.I.S.E.) Associate membership (A.M.I.S.E.) open to Scientists and Engineers in responsible positions. Apply Secretary, India Society of Engineers, 7 Clive St., Calcutta. (4383)

M.D.H.Sc. by correspondence:— Doctor N. H. Chhatbar, Asia Mission. P.O. Mahuva (Kathiawar) (4499)

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FINANCE & PARTNERSHIP

Wanted Financing Partner or investor from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 15,000 for a running Tennis Guts Industry and Skins and Hides Business. Please Apply Box No. 4524, "Bombay Chronicle."

Wanted Financial Brokers to obtain Loan on interest from Multanis on Hundis or otherwise for a running industry. Please apply Box No. 4523, "Bombay Chronicle."

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED from graduates and matriculates between the ages of 18 and 28 for the posts of Ty. Clerks and Ty. Routine Grade Clerks respectively in the Factory Accounts Organisations. Only those should apply who are prepared to serve anywhere in India but without liability for field service. Applications should contain, details of educational qualifications, date of birth, and community. The scales of pay are as under:—

TY. CLERKS—Rs. 62 in the scale of 50—4—70—5—150 plus dearness allowance.

TY. R. G. CLERKS—Rs. 50 in the scale of 36—2—60—2—70 plus dearness allowance.

Applications should be addressed to the Chief Controller of Fy. Accts. 9 Central Avenue, Calcutta. (8327)

NOTICE

APPLICATIONS ON PRESCRIBED forms obtainable from undersigned on payment of Re. 1|- (annas four only for scheduled caste candidates) are invited for about 12 posts of clerks class I, Rs. 100|- p.m. fixed, plus usual dearness allowance and supply of certain commodities at concession rates. 3 posts are reserved for Muslims, one for other minorities and one for scheduled caste candidates.

QUALIFICATIONS: B.A. (Hons.) or M.A. Degree examinations.

AGE on 1-4-44: 16 to 27 years (30 years for scheduled caste candidates).

Last date of receiving applications.—30-4-44.

Selected candidates will be required to appear before a selection committee at Delhi at their own expense. Appointments will be on probation and their retention in service or final absorption in permanent cadre will depend on their passing a departmental examination within a prescribed period.

P. D. PANDE,
Director,
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Wingate Killed In Air Crash

SEVERE STORM SUPPOSED TO HAVE CAUSED ACCIDENT

NEW DELHI, April 1.

Major General Wingate has been killed in an aeroplane crash, while on a flight across the jungles on the India-Burma frontier.

The plane in which he was travelling crashed in our territory and the cause of the accident is unknown.

It is believed that General Wingate was killed on March 24 while on a tour of inspection of his bases behind the Japanese lines.

He was flying in a B-25 American bomber and was homeward bound in British territory when the plane crashed.

That night an American pilot reported having seen a big blaze on a mountain ridge and next day a number of planes were sent out to search for the General's plane which had not returned to its base.

It was, however, some time before the wreckage was found. It is believed that a severe storm caused the plane to crash killing the General and four or five Americans in the crew and one or two other passengers.

BRITAIN'S GREATEST GUERILLA LEADER

LONDON:—Orde Charles Wingate Britain's greatest guerilla leader and jungle fighter is dead. Like Lawrence of Arabia to whom he was distantly related was one of those extraordinary men whom war throws up—utterly unconventional in warfare, extravagantly adventurous and a born leader.

At different times he commanded such incongruous elements as Palestine Jews, Sudanese Abyssinians, Lancashire men, Scotsmen Indians and Gurkhas.

Only on Monday it was disclosed that General Wingate planned and led the airborne invasion of Burma which, 150 miles behind Japanese lines in upper Burma, cut the Mandalay-Myitkyina railway, the essential supply link of the Japanese 18th division.

One of the most epic stories of all time is that of General Wingate's training and leadership of the famous "ghost army" which he led in 1943 for over a thousand miles around the Japanese positions in Burma hidden in the jungle, destroying bridges, railways, ammunition dumps, killing large numbers of Japanese and bringing back invaluable information. But no sooner had he brought his army out of Burma than he was on his way to Quebec with Premier Churchill to prepare plans for a more ambitious campaign.

The secret of his new appointment was well kept for many months and even his promotion to Major-General was not published. But when an airborne landing was announced it carried unmistakably General Wingate's stamp.

HIS CAREER

He was born in February 1903, son of Colonel George Wingate who had 32 years of distinguished service in the Indian Army. He entered the Royal Artillery as second Lieutenant in 1923 and reached the rank of major in 1940.

ABYSSINIA

General Wingate's opportunity to develop his peculiar gifts came between 1928 and 1933 when he was attached to the Sudan defence force. Before he went East in this war he played a major part in raising guerilla bands of patriots in Abyssinia to run out the Italians

Taking a handful of officers he went into the wildest parts of that country and soon gathered an army of Ethiopians. Before that he had been a man who fought Arab terrorists in Palestine with their own weapons of ambush and guerilla raids. With very little time he had cleaned up the terrorists and restored order. For this he got the Distinguished Service Order.

General Wingate was a puritanical Christian who carried his bible everywhere and frequently used texts from it in messages to his men. He said of Japanese Generals that they were third-class, "but the Japanese soldier is another matter." "But" he said, "it is all a matter of training. He can be outwitted easily enough." And certainly General Wingate proved it.—Reuter.

"Severe Loss To Allied Cause"

WASHINGTON, April 1: The death of major General Orde Wingate will be a severe loss to the Allied cause particularly at this critical moment in the Burma campaign, a military spokesman said here to-day.

General Wingate had captured popular American imagination to an unusual extent.

His Last Interview To Press

NEW DELLI, April 1.

In the course of what was probably one of his last interviews to the Press four days before his death, Major General Wingate referring to his second expedition into Burma told an "A. P." war correspondent: 'This has been the most successful air-borne operation in history. Everything we set out to do has been done. There is now a strong British and Gurkha force some 200 miles inside enemy territory. They have established a road and rail block 200 miles behind enemy lines. We have defended airport behind the enemy's lines. Around and beyond we have numerous columns striking out and paralysing the enemy in his vital centres and on his communications.'

His plan was to go where the enemy was not. This plan, had enabled him to "establish inside Jap-held Burma strongholds which highly trained long-range penetration troops are able to use as bases and from where fighter forces are able to operate. Our strong-hold is within 25 miles of two enemy fighter aerodrome."

Increase In Rubber Price

COLOMBO, April 1: Rubber price for the second quarter this year has been increased by 22 cents to 105 cents per lb. the maximum provided under the sliding scale price increase scheme under which quarterly prices are fixable in proportion to the output

Rubber sheet, 105 crepe 106 copra 6,700 Cocoanut oil white (per cwt.) naked 2.360—A. P.

Kamaladevi In City To-day

The President-Elect of the All-India Women's Conference, Shrimati Kamladevi will arrive at Victoria Terminus today (Sunday) by Poona Express.

Civic Reception To Kamaladevi

The Bombay Municipal Corporation has decided to give a civic reception to Shrimati Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya President-elect of the All-India Women's Conference and to the members of the Standing Committee of the Conference on Wednesday, April 5. —A. P.

STUDENTS' RECEPTION TO KAMALADEVI

The General Secretary, Bombay Students' Union has issued the following: Mrs. Kamaladevi, Chatopadhyaya the President-elect of the All-India Women's Conference comes to Bombay today (Sunday) by the Poona Mail The Bombay Students' Union will give her a reception on this occasion. Students are requested to be at the Victoria Terminus at 10 a.m. on Sunday and join the reception.

CITY AND SUBURBS

TO-DAY

Hindu : Chaitra Shud 9, 2000
Muslim : Rabi-ul-Akher 8 1363
Parsi : Avan 1, 1313
Sunrise : 7-33 a.m. Sunset : 7-51 p.m.
Hightide : 7-04 20-51; Lowtide: 2-07 13-18.

To-day's Engagements

HALVAD YUVAK MANDAL : The annual gathering of the above Mandal will be held under the Presidentship of Shriman Sheth Gordhandas Keshavji Gandhi at the Free Reading Hall of Kapol Nivas near Prarthana Samaj today (Sunday) at 4 p.m. (N S T.)

GAUDIYA MISSION : Upadesak Pandit Sripad Nitairdas Brahmachari Bhakti Sastry Ragalankar on "How to Become Sinless" in English. Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road today, (Sunday) at 6-30 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING TO HONOUR MR. M. M. SHAH: Under the auspices of Bombay Jain Yavak Sangh a public meeting will be held to honour and to present Mr. Manilal Mokamchand Shah with a purse at Anand Bhuvan Vithalbhai Patel Road today (Sunday) at 5 p.m. Mr. V. L Mehta will preside

BUDDHA SOCIETY : There will be a public lecture by Dr. J C Chatterji at the "Anand Vihara" Nair Hospital Compound today (Sunday) at 10 a.m. (S T.) on "Lord Buddha's Original Teachings and Their Transformation" —Continued.

SOUTH INDIAN WELFARE SOCIETY : The Parents' Day of the South Indian Welfare Society's School, Matunga will be celebrated at 4 p.m. today (Sunday) at the Khalsa College. Mrs. Hansa Mehta will preside.

RADICAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY : Public meeting to celebrate New India Day today (Sunday) at 7 p.m. at Worli Maidan to explain Labour's plan of economic development of India.

FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION LECTURE : The last lecture of the series will be held in the Khalsa College, Matunga, at 9 p.m. today (Sunday) where N. K Krishnan will speak on the "Soviet Union in the Present War".

MR. NOUTIYAL'S EXHIBITION : This will not be open today but will remain open tomorrow (Monday) the last day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. 195, Hornby Road.

SREE GEERVANA VANEE SABHA : Sjt. A S Iyengar will speak on 'Avatara-rahasyam' at 3 p.m. today (Sunday) at the Shankar Mutt G.I.P., Matunga.

SOUTH INDIAN BHAJANA SAMAJ : The 'Sri Rama Navami Mahotsavam' will be celebrated from today (Sunday) to Monday the 17th April in the Samaj premises.

BOMBAY WOMEN'S RECEPTION COMMITTEE, (A I W C) : Due to oversight it has been printed on the invitation cards of the exhibition of the A I W C Tuesday the 5th April. Instead it should be read as Wednesday the 5th April. All those who have enrolled themselves as volunteers for the Session of the All-India Women's Conference may come to the office at Vanita Vishram English School Khetwadi Main Road Bombay, and see the Convener of the volunteer Sub-Committee before April 3 between 4 and 6.

SHIRIN VAJIFDAR'S DANCE RECITAL : Miss Shirin Vajifdar, the well-known dancer, will give programme of Indian classical and folk dances, at the Royal Opera House at 10 a.m. today. Ram Gopal, the well-known dancer, will preside on the occasion.

The show will be in aid of the Indian Dance Academy, conducted by Miss Vajifdar at Marine Drive to give instruction in Indian dancing to ladies and children. The programme to be presented at the Royal Opera House will consist of twelve items of Indian classical and folk dances by Miss Vajifdar and about forty of her pupils. The programme includes a short ballet in Manipuri technibue.

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY : Indian music at the Victoria Gardens today (Sunday) from 6-30 to 8-30 p.m. (S T) by Mr. R. N Paradkar.

BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN : The Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in co-operation with the Bombay Astrological Society is holding regular classes on Sayana and Nirayana Astrology and Astronomy every Sunday from 4-6 p.m. Students are coached up for special examinations to be held by the Bhavan on this subject. Five competent lecturers are delivering lectures. Those desirous of joining the classes should see the Secretary on any Sunday evening.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS : Public Lecture on "The Brotherhood of Religions." Jehangir Wadia Building. Flora Fountain today (Sunday). 6-15 p.m.

HABIB HIGH SCHOOL : Parents' Day and Prize distribution at Kaiser Baug Dongri today (Sunday) at 5-30 p.m. (S T) Mr. N S. Faruqui Collector of Bombay will preside.

ADDRESS TO RAO BAHADUR J. N MANKAR : At Madhav Baug C.P. Tank today (Sunday) at 5 p.m (N S T) in appreciation of his humanitarian services. Maharaja of Dharampur State will preside.

RECEPTION TO VIJAY MERCHANT: For his magnificent batting performance in 1943, at Blavatsky Lodge Hall at 6-15 p.m. today (Sunday) under the auspices of the P J Hindu Gymkhana.

INTER-MILL WRESTLING TOURNAMENT : For Textile Mill workers at 5-30 p.m. (S T) today (Sunday) on St. Xavier's College Gymkhana Grounds. Parel

ARYA SAMAJ, BOMBAY : A public meeting will be held at Arya Samaj Girgaum today (Sunday) at 7-30 p.m. when several learned Pandits will deliver public lectures on Shri Ramnavami.

Portrait Painter Erach Bhivardiwalla Re-Visits Bombay

Mr. Bhivandiwalla, one of the most travelled Indian artists, is paying his second visit to Bombay after his return from America. He lately went to Hyderabad where he is painting portraits of Nawab Salar Jung and other Nobles.

Delhi Bids Farewell To Maxwell

NEW DELHI, April 1.

Sir Reginald Maxwell, retiring Home Member, Government of India left Delhi this morning and was given a warm send off at the railway station by his colleagues

Several officers of the Home Department and the Governor-General's Secretariat were also present, besides a few members of the Legislative Assembly.—A. P.

TRIBUTES TO MEMORY OF IQBAL

A youth symposium on Iqbal arranged in celebration of the anniversary of that great poet came off at the Blavatsky Lodge on Saturday evening. Prof. A. M. Molvi presided.

He said that Iqbal was a great exponent of truth.

He found the west suffering from the disease of materialism and advised Westerners to turn to the spiritualism of the East. Similarly he exhorted the East to shake off her lethargy and march forward with the changing times. He prescribed to the communalists the medicine of love and asked the Muslims to give up their factional dissensions and be united with the Hindus in a common cause. —the cause of the country.

Mr. G. M. Mekhri observed that Iqbal was the poet of the East and the main burden of his song was the resusciation of the East.

Prof Naqvi stated that Iqbal was a profound poet whose message to his people was to remodel their life in the light of the life of Prophet Mohamed whom he considered as an ideal man.

Mr. Amin Hazein said that Iqbal's poems showed an effort to strike a compromise between the drab materialism of the West and the spiritualism of the East.

Mr. Adam Adil called Iqbal a poet of revolution.

FYZEE RAHAMIN ON "PURPOSE OF ART"

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The "Purpose of Art" was the subject of a lecture by Mr. Fyzee Rahamin at the Conference Room of the Electric House this evening under the presidency of Mr. Taunton, Adviser to the Governor.

Mr. Rahamin made out that the purpose of art was as important as the purpose of life.

In the eyes of the artist the speaker said all visible forms of life were scared as they were the receptacles of the divine force and expressions of the divine will and energy. The artist could not look at creation with the eyes of a superficial observer, but had to look at it with the eyes of a seer and find the meaning behind the surface.

Thus to the artist the ideal and the unseen became more real than what was seen superficially.

He said that the great periods of artistic renaissance in India and elsewhere were the periods when the artists looked to the meaning behind the symbol and tried to realise the divine ideal.

In conclusion he deplored that art had fallen on evil days as the artists today did not think in terms of the sublime and the ideal but were content to be the limitations of nature This degradation of the arts was also the degradation of the creator for in this manner, the artist misused the powers that were vested in him.

The talk was illustrated by slides of the artistic masterpieces of Asia and Europe.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu presided.

ORDINANCE PRISONERS

NEW DELHI April 1 : A Home Department order promulgated today lays down that the powers in respect of persons detained in the Governor's Provinces by or under the authority of the Government of India in respect of the Restriction and Detention Ordinance should be exercisable also by the Provincial Government of that Province Presumably it relates to the six-monthly review of the cases of detenus after giving them the charge-sheet and getting their statements.—United Press.

SANGEET KALA MANDAL, MATUNGA : The opening programme of the 2nd year of the above Mandal by Prof. Sureshbabu of late Abdul Karim School, will be held today (Sunday) at 4 p.m. (N S T) at Khalsa College Hall, 1st Floor King's Circle Matunga.

KARNATAK FRIENDS' UNION The Karnatak Friends' Union staged "Sree Krishna Parijata at the Bhangwadi theatre, Kalbadevi on Friday.

"MALI" RELEASED AT NOVELTY

Shantaram Goes Far, But Not Far Enough

BY T. V. P.

There is quite a superstition, prevalent at present among exhibition circles in Bombay that a picture released at Novelty cannot be what might be called a quality picture. The moderate success of films like "Yad" and "Ramanuj" and "Salma" and "Ghar Sansar" and utter failure of films like "Shahenshah Akbar" have helped to give rise to this superstition.

Superstitions have to be knocked down and Rajkamal Kalamandir's "Mali" released at Novelty will now bury it fathoms deep; for 'Mali' is positively going to see at least its silver jubilee on merits. It has all the production values that make a picture popular and since it is a Shantaram production it cannot be just popular only but must be purposeful also.

And so it is. Savanta Mali is not merely a bhajan-mad philanthropic devotee. He believes in work, in action, in material prosperity. Indeed with all his Godliness for which goodness is only another word, Savanta Mali is a materialist. He believes in working with his own hands, producing good things for enjoyment in life and sharing them with others. Is not that believing in socialism also? Yes, but Savanta, as all other saints and founders of religions, are called humanitarians and not socialists, because they had not the good fortune to be born in an epoch in which Marx made his appearance and formulated the workability of achieving socialism for all as a result of abolition of exploitation of one man by another, resort to collective production and sharing of wealth according to everybody's need.

I did not, therefore, expect Shantaram to make Savanta into a preacher of socialism but I did expect him to stick to his materialist outlook, which he shows in a beautiful way in the first part of the picture. After having once made short work of popular legends about saints, why can't we make them after our images of them? In the latter half of the picture we have got the usual miracles, persecution by wicked people of the saint and his family and God's coming to their rescue in person. My dream of Savanta as a 'Karmayogi' was shattered.

But while making a personal grievance of my disappointment and that of people of my way of thinking, let me frankly say that the picture makes a very enjoyable production as a piece of cinematic art. Baby Nalini and Master Krishnarao between them act in certain scenes which, will never fade out of memory. One scene reminded me of a similar scene from "Andhalyanchi Shala" in which Keshaorao Date and Jyotsna Bhole acted as father and daughter. The essential sentiment of both the scenes is the same.

With Krishnarao and Amirbai in the film, the expectation was that it would be a much more musical film than it is. Amirbai appears not have had enough scope. Probably the limitation on protege is responsible for this. The chorus "Mano Mano Kanhare" appeared to be an attempt on the lines of what Joag and Vatsala Kumthekar gave so brilliantly in "State Guests" but reached nowhere near it. I saw the Hindustani version and I found the language not polished enough nor the delivery by some characters quite satisfactory.

I am now expecting to derive more pleasure by seeing the Marathi version, one of these days.

Satyakatha Cinema Special

The February-March issue of the monthly Marathi periodical "Satyakatha" edited by Mr. V. P. Bhagwat devotes all its contents to examine and survey the position of the Indian film industry as it is to-day. The editorial makes out a case for taking stock of the position and taking precautions for retaining the present prosperity for all time by planning and co-ordinating programme of work in all branches of the industry. Rai Bahadur Chunilal in an interview suggests the building up of reserves by producing centres to make provision for a possible bad day later. An old article of Phalke's describes in his words how the Cinema came and stabilised in this country. Mr. D. S. Kulkarni, editor of the "Mirror" contributes an article on "Our Directors" pointing out their characteristics, shortcomings and possibilities of further development. It makes a very readable article. Shyamaprasad Mookerji's views about the Indian Film Industry as recorded in an interview to 'Filmindia' have been translated in an article. Mr. R. G. Sardesai has written about our scenarios in a crisp and informative article which reveals careful study. Among other contributors are Winayak, Roy Kinikar, Kumar Chandrashekhar, Prabhakar Gupte, Prabhat-Kumar Vaidya, R. S. Junnarkar and Vasant Sathe. An article by an American writer on post-war role of motion pictures should prove an eye-opener to our producers

KARANJIA'S BROADCAST: Mr. R. K. Karanjia, War Correspondent, who recently returned from the Front, will broadcast a talk entitled "from base to battlefront" from AIR, Bombay, to-day (Sunday) at 8-45 p.m.

THE LATE PROFESSOR V. S. GHURYE, M.Ah

Prof. Ghurye who was for sometime Vice-Principal, Bahauddin College, Junagad, and the State Commissioner of Boy Scouts, died on 20th March at Junagad. He won the Le Grand Jacob Scholarship in the Matriculation examination and got the Waller Medal and First Class in F. Y. A. examination He distinguished himself at the B.A examination by snatching the Cobden Club Medal. He served for three years as Lecturer in Gujjar's Chemical Laboratory. In 1910 he joined the Bahauddin College as Professor of Science where he served with distinction for over 31 years and retired as Vice-Principal. He was a keen student of Psychology and Education.

As State Commissioner of Boy Scouts, he developed popularized and put on a sound footing the movement in Junagad. After his return from the study tour in England and on the Continent, he organised Training Camps for Scouts and Scout Masters, and an all-Kathiawar Rally in Junagad and thus gave a great fillip to the movement in the State. Personally he won the Wood Badge, the Certificate of Merit and the coveted Silver Wolf.

City Doctors Inaugurate Memorial Building Fund

The annual general meeting of the Bombay Medical Union was held at the Taj Mahal Hotel, followed by an annual dinner, presided over by Dr. M. B. Velkar, the President of the Union. The new office-bearers for the current year with Dr. Khurshed J. Cursettjee, as president and Dr. Geo. Coelho and Dr. Rustom Jal Vakil, as Hon. Secretaries were elected.

Dr. Velkar in his presidential address said that nobody cared to plan for the Health Insurance of the millions of workers in the country. All the different Plannings would require finances which undoubtedly depended on the growth and progress of the industries of the country, which again solely depended on the health of the millions of workers and without whose health no industry would ever thrive and prosper. He thus wanted the Bombay Medical Union, a premier recognized institution of the independent Medical profession in India to make the Sickness Insurance Scheme a *live affair*, by intensely urging upon the Government to introduce Sickness Insurance Scheme in the country, without the least possible delay, for the benefit of the workers both manual and intellectual, urban and rural.

The President wanted the scheme on the Panel system as in England giving right to every medical man to sit on the Panel and every Insured worker to choose his own Doctor on the Panel.

At a dinner attended by distinguished medical men toasts were taken and the Diamond Jubilee Memorial Building Fund was inaugurated and contributions amounting to over Rs. 2,500 were made on the spot.

"THE SOPHIA COLLEGE CASE"

In Prof. K. T Shah's article under the above heading published in the "Bombay Chronicle" of Saturday the following sentence is published :

"On the one hand the nation-wide agitation raised deliberately and conducted scientifically by the impulse, sanction and authority of uncatholic Church,—with all the vast machinery of propaganda at its command,—is rapidly transforming the original issue of some disciplinary action against certain and exceptionable activities in an affiliated college into a matter concerning the rights of the Minorities, which has a particularly sinister twang in this land torn by the storms of the communal discords."

As a result of a printer's mistake "the uncatholic Church" was published instead of "The Catholic Church". The mistake is very much regretted.

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AMERY ON INDIA GOVT.'S DEFEATS IN ASSEMBLY

LONDON, March 30.

The Secretary of State for India Mr. Amery has circulated in a written reply the composition at the end of 1942 of the main parties in the elected members of the Legislative Assembly. He adds that he has no information regarding the number of members at present in detention. Mr. Amery also gives the composition of the Government of India and the recent defeats sustained by Government in the Assembly.

Mr. Amery states that no analysis of the division lists on these occasions is yet available, but he understood from press reports that Congress Nationalist and Muslim League members combined to vote against Government.

Arising from this, Mr. Sorensen (Labour) asked, "Has Mr. Amery's attention been drawn not only to the recent defeat of Government by a majority but also to other defeats, and can he say what significance attaches to these?"

Mr. Amery replied that his views on these matters could not be dealt with by question and answer.

Mr. McGovern (Independent Labour) asked: Was the attitude of the Commons in the recent defeat similar to that in the Indian Legislative Assembly?

Mr. Sorensen: Is it not true that the majority who defeated Government did not consist of Congress members but of non-Congress members?

Mr. Amery made no further reply. —Reuter.

CENTRAL GOVT. TO PAY COMPENSATION?

(From Our Correspondent)

ALLAHABAD, April 1

Mr. Harishchandra, I.C.S., District and Sessions Judge, Allahabad, acting as arbitrator held the Central Government liable to pay Rs. 1,90,200 to Messrs. P. L. Jaitly and Co. in connection with a requisitioning under the D.I.R. of the premises lawfully occupied by Jaitley Company.

Requisition proceedings were taken last year under the orders issued by the then District Magistrate A. D. Dixon and when Messrs. P. L. Jaitly did not vacate the premises.

Confidential Circulars To "Show Clemency"!

Light Over Bengal Govt.'s Policy Towards Under-Trial Prisoners

CALCUTTA, March 31.

Judgment was delivered by the Chief Justice sitting with Mr. Justice Lodge in a case in which a rule was obtained by the petitioner-complainant Rajendra Nath Som against the order of Mr. J. P. Rai District Magistrate of Burdwan, transferring the case instituted by the petitioner against the accused-opposite party, Dwijpada Samanta and six others, from the file of the Munsif-Magistrate of Burdwan, to the file of the Sub-divisional Officer, Sadar Burdwan.

In this matte the two confidential circulars issued by the Government of Bengal, dated January 10 and February 7, 1944 outlining their policy towards the under-trial prisoner who had committed offences during the last six months "as a means of self-preservation" in the condition of acute famine had been disclosed. The intention of the circulars, it appears, was to show clemency in respect of people who committed certain offences to save themselves from starvation. The measure is also directed to afford relief from the pressure on jail accommodation.

After the Munsif-Magistrate of Burdwan had refused the prayer for permission to withdraw the prosecution, the District Magistrate transferred the case to the file of the Sub-divisional Officer, Sadar, stating in his order that it was urgent that the Government order regarding clemency should be carried out. Against this order the petitioner had obtained this rule from this Court.

The Chief Justice in his judgment said that as regards the circular no objection could be taken to the general purpose of it. The District Magistrate's order in transferring the case was an improper one and it was set aside. The case was returned to the Munsif-Magistrate of Burdwan for trial.—United Press.

Chief Justice Refuses To Oblige Govt.

CALCUTTA, March 31: The conduct of the Bengal Government was commented upon by the Chief Justice sitting with Mr. Justice Lodge while delivering judgment in the rule obtained by Khan Saheb Hatemali Jamadar, M.L.A. for transfer of the case pending against him on a charge of criminal breach of trust from the file of the Munsif-Magistrate of Barisal.

It appears that a number of letters and telegrams passed between Mr. W. J. Palmer District Magistrate of Bengal and Mr. K. A L. Hill, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Department of Agriculture, in connection with this case, as a result of which Mr. Palmer had formed the impression that the correspondence suggested that the case against Khan Saheb Jamadar should either be withdrawn or postponed.

The Chief Justice remarked that it was not consistent with the duties of the Secretaries of the Government Departments who were officers surbordinate to the Governor for the purpos of exercising the executive authority of the Province to take part in such attempts.

His Lordship refused to transfer the case.—United Press.

INDIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES IN LONDON

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, March 31.

The India Relief Committee which sent about Rs two lakhs to Mr. N. M Joshi and Mrs. Pandit for relief work all over India has entered a new field of useful activity yesterday afternoon when Alderman, Dr. C. L. Katial, Dr. Shakir Mohamedi, Capt H. K. Handoo, I M S (retired) held an 'at home' at Dorchester Hotel to meet Lord Horder and Clement Davies, M P., and consider medical aid for India in her distress. Prominent British and Indian doctors were present as also representatives of several important manufacturing chemists, pharmaceutists. Lord Moram, Dr. Geoffrey Bourne heart specialist and Sir Stewart Duke elderly eminent physician, Prof. Hemsworth and Sir Webb Johnson President Royal College of Surgery sent letters regretting their inability to attend but expressing sympathy with the object of the meeting.

RUSSO-JAPANESE AMITY

LONDON, April 1: The Japanese official news agency said tonight "the friendly relations between Japan and the Soviet Union have been further bolstered with the signing in Moscow of the two agreements regarding oil and coal in north Sakhalin and the extension of the Japanese Soviet Fisheries Agreement.

The transfer of Japanese interest in North Sakhalin has solved a vital cause of constant disputes between Tokyo and Moscow, thereby placing Soviet Japanese relations on a sounder and more positive basis."—Reuter.

CRIME AGAINST HUMAN SENSIBILITY

U. S. Press Attack On British White Paper On Palestine

NEW YORK, April 1: Denouncing the British White-paper on Palestine as "a crime against human sensibility" the Newspaper 'P M' said in an editorial on Friday:

"The whole idea of the Whitepaper —always wrong—is today so monstrous that the British may possibly seek to temper the starkness of their act by some rhetorical expedient. The fact that these victims are European Jews is not the crucial fact. The crucial fact is that they are human beings. To shut the door on their agony is a crime against human sensibility, a denial of whatever residual dignity of centuries of freedom and cynicism have not stripped from man".—Reuter.

"Spitfires" In Action In Admiralties

SYDNEY, April 1: The invasion of the Pityulu island in the Admiralty group in south-west Pacific reported this morning by General MacArthur was marked by the biggest combined 'Kittyhawk' 'Spitfire' operation in this area, say dispatches reaching here from New Guinea.

It was the first time that Royal Australian Air Force 'Spitfires' had been in action in the Admiralties. With R.A.F. 'Kittyhawks' the 'Spitfires' softened up the island before the landing by American ground forces. The Japanese trapped on the Admiralties abondoned vy their navy are assured of a relentless pounding from the air by these squadrons.—Reuter

U. S.-Canadian Aviation Talks

OTTAWA, April 1: The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announced to-day that "informal talks" have taken place recently in international civil aviation policy between representatives of Canadian and United States Governments. Mr. Mackenzie King did not indicate where the talks were held but it is believed they were in Montreal.—Reuter.

"News" To Shanmugam

MADRAS, April 1: Sir R. K. Shunmugam Chettiar, Chairman of the National Survey Committee of Scientific and Industrial Researches, returned to Madras last evening from Hyderabad. The other members of the Committee did not arrive. Asked about the mention of his name for the commissionership in Australia, Sir R. K. said that the question was news to him. Nor was he disposed to answer hypothetical queries when the possibility of such an offer was suggested to him.—A. P.

V. G. Gokhale Dead

POONA, March 31.—The death has occurred of Mr. V. G. Gokhale, ex-principal of the Agricultural College, Poona, at the age of 62. He was a member of the Provincial Rural Development Board since its commencement in 1940 and also took part in various public activities pertaining to rural uplift work.—A.P.

MIRAJ, March 31: The Hon. Dr. N. B. Khare, Member-in-charge of the Department of Commonwealth Relations, will preside over the eleventh annual meeting of the Akhila Chitpavan Brahmin Vidyarthi Sahayak Mandal to be held at Ratnagiri on April 28 and 30. Dr. Khare will unveil the memorial to late Lokamanya Tilak.—United Press.

GOVERNOR AT RAJAPUR

Visits Agricultural School

(From Our Correspondent)

RAJAPUR, March 28.

His Excellency Sir John Colville, Governor of Bombay, during the course of his visit to the Ratnagiri District paid a visit to the Agricultural School at Rajapur and was very much interested in the working of the institution, especially in the hand-made paper, cane and bamboo-work carried on in the work shop by the students. Before leaving the school farm, His Excellency was garlanded by Rao Saheb Kulkarni on behalf of the school.

ADDRESS OF RAJAPUR MUNICIPALITY & S. P. MANDAL

His Excellency then drove to the town where he was received by Rao Bahadur U. S. Desai, President of the Mandal, and Mr. Nanasaheb Ahmedsaheb, President of the Municipality. After being garlanded by both of them, the President of the Municipality presented an address to H. E. in a silver casket, which was read out by Dr. Sarkhot. While emphasizing the harmonious relations that existed between the Hindus and Muslims, the two major communities of the town, and the useful services that the Municipality was rendering to the citizens in general, the Address laid particular stress on the necessity of improving the communications of the town with Bombay and Kolhapur with a view to restore some of its past commercial prosperity by completing the Rajapur-Musakaji Road, opening the Anaskura Ghat and dredging up the silted creek to Jaitapur.

Rao Bahadur Desai then presented an Address to H.E. on behalf of the Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, in a silver casket. It contained a brief survey of the various educational activities of the institution.

Replying to these addresses His Excellency referred to the spirit of goodwill and toleration that existed between the two major communities and congratulated the Municipality on their sound administration. Referring to the problems of communications mentioned in the address, H.E. assured that improvement of roads was going to occupy a prominent place in the Government scheme of post-war reconstruction, and that the demands of the Municipality would be sympathetically considered. His Excellency made a reference to the food problem, and assured the audience that Government would do their utmost to provide the District, which was a deficit district, with the necessary quantity of food.

In replying to the Address of the Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, His Excellency expressed warm appreciation of its splendid achievements, and congratulated the management on their fine work.

H.E. then complimented Rao Bahadur Desai on his announcing a donation of Rs. 1,000 to the school, the interest whereof was to be utilized for giving an annual prize of Rs. 35 to be named "Sir John Colville Prize" to the student standing first in Sanskrit or Marathi from the school at the Matriculation examination. Mr. Hardikar rendered His Excellency's speech in Marathi. His Excellency was garlanded on behalf of both the institutions and also on behalf of the Konkan Muslim Education Society.

Military Officer And Contractor Arrested

NEW DELHI, April 1: Sardar Khushal Singh, a New Delhi Contractor, has been arrested by the local C.I.D. on a charge of offering a bribe to Major E. E. Dunnette, former assistant Secretary, War Department, Government of India.

Sardar Khushal Singh was produced before a Delhi Magistrate who remanded him to custody pending investigation.

Major Dunnette was arrested about two months ago on a charge of receiving illegal gratification R. S. Goel, who was arrested recently on a charge of bribery in connection with Major Dunnette was produced in the Court of Mr. D. Falshaw, District and Sessions Judge, Delhi, yesterday and was released on bail.

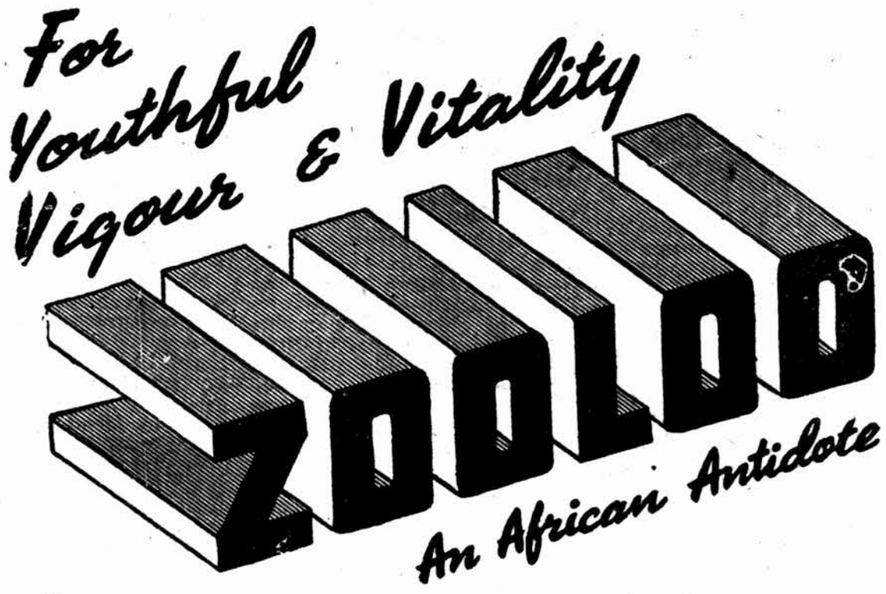
It was alleged at a previous hearing in another Court that Goel gave Rs. 1,500 to a person who passed it on to Major Dunnette in order it was stated, to secure the transfer of a Military Officer.—A P

ANOTHER "VIKRAM FESTIVAL" BY BOMBAY: The Hon Secretary of Vikram Festival Organisation in the course of a statement to the Press, calls upon the citizens of Bombay to organise another Vikram Festival (to be presided over by the Maharaja of Gwalior) on October 18th the New Year Day of the Indian commercial calendar. He also enquires why the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and the Arya Samaj are keeping aloof and not supporting the movement of "Vikram Flag" on every house-top and "Vikram Procession" in every city.

Poona Centre Engineering Exams.

Candidates appearing for the Engineering Examinations at Poona Centre commencing on Monday, the 3rd April, 1944, are hereby informed that the time for setting the papers at the written examination will be 11-30 a.m.. and 3-30 p.m. each day.

S. R. DONGERKERY,
University Registrar.



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Physical Education And Recreation For National Health

(By J. C. MAITRA.)

A few weeks ago I published in these columns a scheme formulated by Principal P. M. Joseph of the Training Institute for Physical Education at Kandivali, on physical education and recreation for national health. I am sorry I could not comment on it earlier for want of space. I am, however, glad that the article above-mentioned was republished by other papers in the country. The scheme has several good points in it which deserves our commendation. Joseph is perfectly right in saying that no single scheme can be applicable to the whole country. It should vary from province to province and locality to locality. A programme which is suitable for the urban areas, for instance, is not likely to be accepted in the villages.

Activities In Urban Areas

In the urban areas several organisations like the football, hockey, cricket associations and clubs are already in the field to promote the various branches of sport. In cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Lahore and Madras some of the games have advanced appreciably and popular enthusiasm for them have greatly increased during the last few years. Joseph suggests that the co-operation of all existing organisations should be sought to promote their activities or a broader and more intensive scale to reach larger numbers. Encouragement should be given to such organisations to start new branches. Increased facilities in the forming of playgrounds, buildings and maintainance grants may be given as encouragements.

Organisation Of Rural Areas

In the rural areas, greater guidance, facilities and aid for recreation will have to be provided, says Joseph. The utility of the existing Akhadas and any other recreative agency in the villages should be extended. Encouragement should be given to start new centers if none exist. Every village should be, in course of time, helped to develop its own play ground and recreation centre. Special Recreation Organisers, appointed for the purpose, should seek the co-operation of the local people and try to start rural centres. A local committee may be entrusted with the responsibility of seeing the Center functioning properly. A young villager, keenly interested in physical activities, may be appointed as the leader of the Center.

Government's Duty

Everybody will agree with Joseph as far as the above suggestions are concerned. I do not think anybody will quarrel with him in regard to the programme of activities outlined by him. I also agree with him when he says that in India the Physical Education and Recreation Movement cannot be left entirely in the hands of voluntary agencies. I would go further and approve of his suggestion that Government planning, Government guidance and Government aid must be provided. But then I become sceptical. It is all very well to expect Government to do this and do that and even emphasise that they must. But how far will the hope materialise?

India's Plight

Looking to the past records of the Government in India, we can hope for very little if at all. According to Joseph himself, (1) economically the country as a whole is poor, (2) educationally she is woefully backward and (3) under-nourishment and malnourishment are chronic and vast problems in themselves. What has the Government done to remedy these horrible defects and drawbacks? Precious little, indeed! With all the natural resources at her disposal, India has remained, thanks to her political subjection, a most backward country—physically, educationally and economically. If we had a Government of our own things would have been quite different. We might have been racing with the leading nations of the world for a front rank—not perhaps as a military unit trying to subjugate the rest of the world but as a healthy and happy people teaching them how to live in peace and contentment with others.

Job For National Government

Where the present war will lead us heaven alone knows! Meanwhile millions of our people are dying of starvation and malnutrition. How long the Government will take to provide food—sufficient to build up and maintain a healthy body—to all the people nobody can tell. So the talk of building up a healthy nation at this stage may seem ridiculous. Our rulers have done precious little so far to solve the problem. Unless and until we have a Government of our own—a National Government in the real sense of the term—we cannot hope for a proper solution of the question. To deal with it in an effective manner we shall need lakhs and lakhs of rupees. It is only a People's Government which can have the heart and the will to do their duty by the people.

Post-War Problem

God alone can tell when we shall have a National Government in this country. Of course, this problem of making the people healthy and strong will have to wait till the end of the war even if we had a National Government to-day, because all the resources of the country would have to be devoted towards winning the peace of the world. However, there does not seem any chance of such a Government functioning in India in the near future. We have, therefore, to wait till better days come. In the meantime, there is nothing wrong in discussing our problems for materialisation after the war. After all they will have to be tackled sooner or later.

Example Of Soviet Russia

There is no doubt that it is the primary duty of the State to look after the physical welfare of the people. How Soviet Russia has acquitted itself in this respect is evidenced by the brilliant performances of its soldiers on the various battle fronts as well as by its people in general. We must also admit that the German and the Japanese soldiers have shone equally well—even though we condemn the object for which they are fighting. The people of Britain showed an amount of grit, during the terrific air raids, which evoked the admiration of the whole world. It is all due to the high standard of their physical fitness for which their Governments spent millions of pounds every year. If something of that kind was done by our Government in the pre-war days, there would have been no need to import foreign troops here to defend our hearths and homes!

Public Co-operation

Nevertheless we have to prepare ourselves for the future—not for the purpose of strengthening our people for another war but for making them healthy and useful citizens of the world at peace. It is therefore our incumbent duty to rouse the public conscience about the appalling condition of our people. We must remember that nothing substantial can be done even by a National Government if the people themselves do not co-operate wholeheartedly in any plan of action launched by it. The scheme of compulsory physical education for our boys and girls in the schools and colleges have so far proved a mere eye-wash, because neither the educational authorities nor the parents and guardians of the students take the imposition seriously.

Wanted A National Convention

We need many more playing fields and recreation grounds all over the country than we have at present. We need thousands of trained physical instructors and play leaders everywhere, because without trained men and women to coach our boys and girls, all physical education would be worse than useless. For this purpose again, we must have many more colleges and institutes for training instructors in every province. The Government, the Municipalities and the Local Bodies must all join together to provide all the amenities necessary for building up a healthy and strong nation. The public will have to co-operate in making the scheme a success. A National Convention of all sports organisers in India should therefore be held to give practical shape to a nation-wide scheme for the development and fruition of the above ideal.

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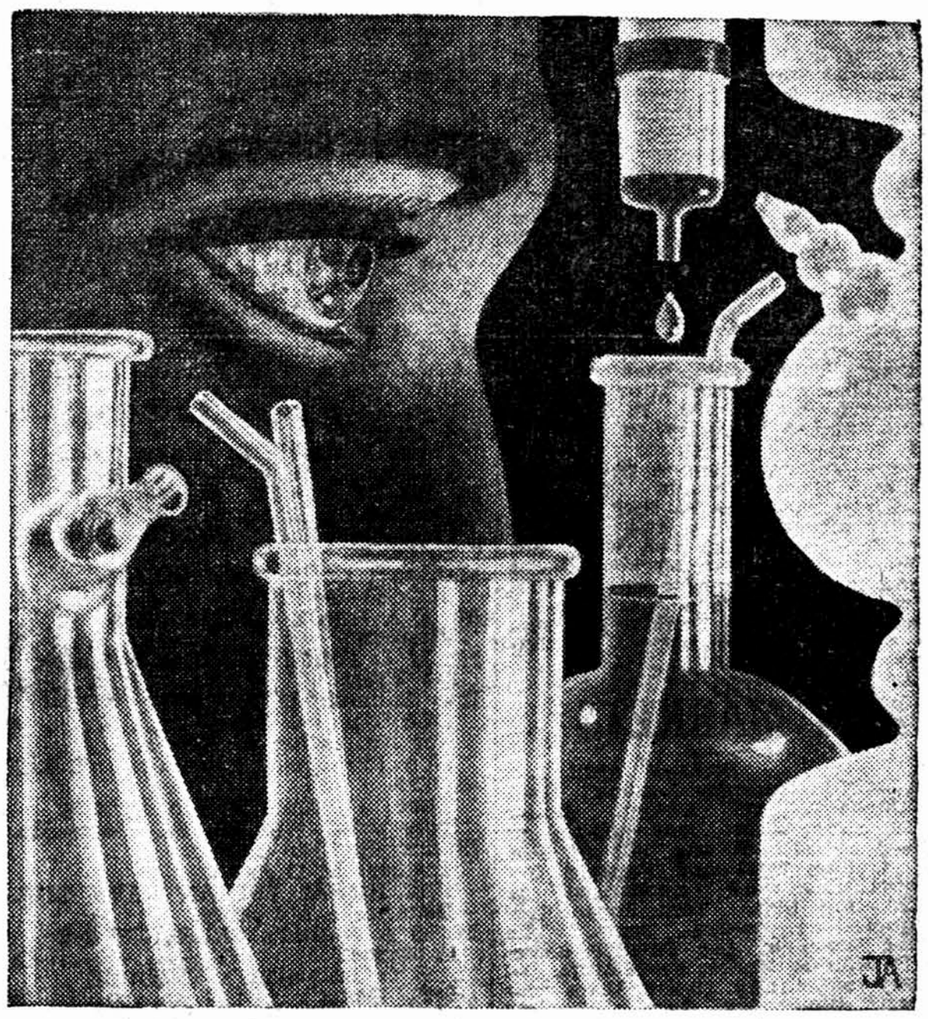


IMPROVEMENTS in our daily life follow one another so swiftly that we tend to accept them as a matter of course. We note advances in the colour, finish and texture of our dress materials or the fabrics which go to furnish our houses. We even use without surprise entirely new types of textiles and other materials. We read with only a passing wonder of the strides being made in the prevention and cure of disease among men and animals, and for our protection, in the detection of crime. We have ceased to be astonished at the developments which make our daily round and common task, in kitchen, work-room and garden, simpler or more enjoyable. We accept without comment the progressive advance in quality of such entertainments as the cinema and radio. Even in a world at war we seldom pause to inquire how it is that we are still able to enjoy efficient substitutes for the articles which are temporarily no longer obtainable. Or how it comes about that the evils of undernourishment and the scourge of epidemic disease have been kept so firmly in control. We shall do better to remind ourselves occasionally that none of these things come of their own accord. In each one of them we shall, if we trouble to inquire, find the hand of the research chemist and of the chemical industry—and not least of the British chemical industry. The record of history shows that British chemists have always been in the van of invention and discovery. It is not the least of Britain's justifications for the regard of other nations that, even stretched on the rack of war though she is, her sons and daughters, fleets and armies scattered all over the globe, her chemists have stood to their task. Today, as in peacetime, British laboratories and chemical factories are working with undiminished resource and energy to see that the benefits of science are increasingly applied in our daily life.

ICI

No. 1 in the "Services of an Industry" series issued by

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES (INDIA) LTD

Unionists' "No" To Jinnah

Punjab Ministry To Stick To Its Label?

LAHORE, April 1

It is understood that Sir Chhotu-ram, Revenue Minister, Punjab, has finally expressed his unwillingness to accept Mr. Jinnah's proposal to drop the "Unionist" label attached to the Coalition Ministry in the Punjab.

The Muslim League Party meeting which was convened to consider this issue was also postponed owing to the absence from Lahore of Malik Khizr Hyat Khan Tiwana in connection with death of his father General Sir Umar Hyat Khan Tiwana.

The position regarding the nomenclature of the Ministry, which has been the subject of controversy in the Punjab ever since the death of Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, therefore, remains unchanged.

Mr. Jinnah is leaving for Delhi on April 4 but the Premier is not likely to return to Lahore until the end of next week. The League President is expected to visit the Punjab again during the summer when the question is likely to be reopened.—A. P.

Cause Of Gold Rush

"DUE TO INCREASE IN SALE PRICE OF GOLD"

The Secretary of the Bombay Bullion Exchange writes:

With reference to the speech of Mr. Jones, the Finance Secretary in the Council of State regarding sales of gold and speculation in the Bullion Market, I am directed to issue the following Press Note to clear certain points:—

"The big demand for gold started with the Japanese penetration into Indian border and the wave of speculative buying of gold which according to Mr. Jones has outstripped the price at which the Reserve Bank were prepared to sell In the opinion of the Directors of the Bullion Exchange, both the speculative buying and the abrupt rise in price would not have occurred if the Reserve Bank have not altered the price but continued to supply at its previous level of Rs. 71 per Tola, and also issued the clear-cut statement that it would be prepared to supply gold at this rate in fixed quantities This would have restored the confidence and the price back to the Reserve Bank's rate. It is wrong for the Finance Secretary to say that this is a move to frustrate the Government's anti-inflationary policy and the threat that he would take the most drastic measures as they took in a similar situation in the Cotton Market last year. The best way not to allow the Bullion Market go out of hand is to continue to supply gold at fixed rate and issue a clear-cut statement that the Bank will give every day certain quantities at that rate."

CITY MARKETS

Bombay April 1.

BULLION: Yesterday London Gold was unchanged at £8-8-0. Dollar Sterling Cross Rate was 4.02-1/2 to 4.03-1/2 at London and 4.03 at New York London Spot and Forward Silver quotations were unchanged at 23-1/2d. and New York Spot Silver was quoted at 44-3/4 cents. The warning given by the Finance Secretary to Bullion Market speculators had salutary effect and to-day there was moderate liquidation. Sales of Gold all made with the dual object to provide rupees for the use of U. S. A. and H. M Governments war expenditure and as an anti-inflationary measure. In the local market Forward Gold opened at Rs. 73-6 and declined to Rs. 72-12 and later steadied at Rs. 73-2. Forward Silver opened at Rs. 130 and after improving to Rs 130-12 steadied at Rs. 130-8

Silver ruled quiet while Gold was steady with scattered buying closing quotations Ready Silver Rs. 133-8. Forward Rs. 130-6. Ready Gold Rs. 73-4. Forward Rs. 73-4.

COTTON PARITY: Indian Cotton May Contract is below New York May 408 cent points at Exchange Rate 331.

HIGH AND LOW COTTON PRICES

I C C May highest 435-1/2 lowest 430-1/4 closing 434-1/2, I C C July highest 445-1/2 lowest 441 closing 443-3/4, I C C September highest 449-1/2 lowest 445 closing 448.

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET

Cotton after early advances with distants touching new seasonal high levels reacted on scattered hedge selling and liquidation influenced by the uncertainty over war developments and larger 1943 loan redemptions. The market closed steady

NEW YORK COTTON

New York March 31

May 20.86—03 July 20.52 October 20.12—01, December 19.97 January 19.91 March 19 81+02 May highest 20.93+04 (10-6 a.m.), lowest 20.83—06 (1-7 p.m.) Middling Spot 21 75—07.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

May 20 99—04 July 20.67 October 20.15—01 December 19.99. January 19.88 March 19 81—01 Middling Spot 20.95.

NEW YORK COTTON, NOON CALL

May 20 98 July 20.53 October 20.15

BOMBAY BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY

The following are the revised timings of Passenger trains at Bombay Central on and from 1-4-1944:—

	Arrivals. H M.	Departures. H M.
Ahmedabad Passenger	7.00	20.15
Gujerat Mail	8.30	19.55
Kathiawar Mail	9.25	18.45
Frontier Mail	10.40	18.10
Baroda Passenger	16.00	8.25

War Gift Fund Meeting

DOUBLE FOR BARODA

Punters Disappointed Again At Mahaluxmi

(From Our Racing Correspondent)

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The attendance at Mahaluxmi today when the First Day of the War Fund Meeting was run off was fairly good but the sport provided was not to appreciable advantage of punters who again went home disappointed. Four heavily supported candidates scored but the rest of the winners returned fancy prices.

A double was recorded for the Gaekwar of Baroda through the medium of Royal Blood and Guiding Star. The latter annexed the Indian Army Cup in a well-timed effort.

Another feature was a profitable double for trainer K. H. Irani. He narrowly missed to achieve treble success as Cougar was beaten into close second.

Peerless and Brother Scribe won the Royal Indian Navy Cup and the Russian Army Cup respectively.

Britt, the season's champion jockey was alone successful with a double.

The following are the results:—

THE NETHERLANDS PLATE. Division IV.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Messrs. Hoosein Kadum and F A Banaji's YOUNG KRUSH 8-12 Raut 1
Princess Nirmal Kumari of Limbdi's MACARTHUR 8-5 H Mohd. 2
Mr Deepchand Teckchand's WAFI AL NIL 8-12 Magan Singh 3
Rao Bahadur Thube's FAITHFUL 8-12 Jadhav 4

Not run: Soheila.

Won by: 1/2 length, 2 lengths, 1 length.

Time: 1 minute 25 2/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 76. Places Rs. 21, Rs. 15 and Rs. 48.

Trainer: R. Swedani.

THE NETHERLANDS PLATE. Division III.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Mr R T Wandekar's KARAM AL RAHIM 8-12 H Singh 1
Haji Rashid Fadhoos' ISFOOG 9-0 Bhoorsingh 2
Messrs. Permanand and Deepchand's ROBINHOOD 9-0 Faruq Shan 3
Mr R P Ebrahim's FLOWER OF CALCUTTA 8-12 Poshny 4

Not run: Hatim Tay.

Won by: 2 lengths, 3 1/2 lengths, 1 1/4 lengths.

Time: 1 minute 23 4/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 32. Places Rs. 16, Rs. 28 and Rs. 26.

Trainer: K H Irani.

THE AMERICAN PLATE.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Maharaja of Baroda's ROYAL BLOOD 8-8 Britt 1
Mr F A Irani's COUGAR 8-0 Virsingh 2
Mr M D Petit's MENU SUFFRAGE 8-1 Evans 3
Rao Bahadur D A Surve's WONDERFUL 9-0 Burn 4

Not run: King of Sports.

Won by: Head, 4 lengths, 2 1/2 lengths.

Time: 1 minute 28 4/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 24. Places Rs. 13 and Rs. 17.

Trainer: M C Patel.

THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY CUP.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.

Mr S A Rashid's PEERLESS 8-2 A Ahmed 1
Mr S G Bhopatkar's FIROUZE 8-11 Evans 2
Maharaja of Idar's BUBBLES 8-12 8-12 Brace 3
Mr Amin and Major Gandhy's PLEADER 8-8 Laloo 4

Not run: Mahboob's Choice and Highland Heather.

Won by: 1 length, Short head, Neck

Time: 2 minutes 9 2/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 118. Places Rs. 31, Rs. 19 and Rs. 15.

Trainer: Mahomedalli.

THE NETHERLANDS PLATE. Division II.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Mr F Rubeque's NABHAN SAID 9-0 Marrs 1
Mr. Saleh Moosa's RED CROSS 9-0 Bhoorsingh 2
Messrs. Tibrewalla and Modi's HALFAYA 8-12 Raffaele 3
Haji Rashid Fadhoos' KUMMER II 9-0 B McQuade 4

Not run: Iraq Marshal and Prince Falih.

Won by: Short head, 1 1/2 lengths, Head.

Time: 1 minute 24 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 113. Places Rs. 42, Rs. 67 and Rs. 20.

Trainer: K H Irani.

THE CHINA STAKES.—Distance 5 furlongs.

Mr R J Sigtia's SNAKY HIPS 8-7 Evans 1
Messrs. Baburao Patel and D K Parker's MAID OF HONOUR 8-7 K Hassan 2
H H the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda's LOVE ME 8-7 Britt .. 3
H H Maharani Chimnabai of Baroda's PRINCESS CHITRA 8-7 Sibbritt 4

Not run: Rosebud and Lakshmi.

Won by: 2 lengths, 2 lengths, Short head.

Time: 1 minute 5 1/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 24. Places Rs. 13, Rs. 36 and Rs. 15.

Trainer: Talib.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY CUP.—Distance 1 1/4 miles.

Mr J D Banatwalla's BROTHER SCRIBE 8-8 Burn 1
Mr A Higgins' BAY PETER 8-5 Percival 2
Mr Chandra Mohan's A LA GRANDE 9-0 Evans 3
Maharaja of Baroda's SWEET DREAM 9-4 West 4

All ran.

Won by: 1 1/4 lengths, 3/4 length, 1/2 length.

Time: 2 minute 8 3/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 64. Places Rs. 23, Rs. 19 and Rs. 38.

Trainer: Meherjee.

THE INDIAN ARMY CUP.—Distance 1 1/2 miles.

Maharaja of Baroda's GUIDING STAR 9-1 Britt 1
Maj. Gandhi and Mr. Jehangir's HINDUSTAN 8-5 H Singh 2
Mr Saleh Moosa's JASSIR 7-10 B Khalil 3
Messrs. B Patel and D K Parker's DHIBAN 7-6 Sibbritt 4

Not run: Jutland.

Won by: Short head, 5 lengths, 2 1/2 lengths.

Time: 2 minutes 54 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 60. Places Rs. 29, Rs. 19 and Rs. 39.

Trainer. M C Patel.

THE NETHERLANDS PLATE. Division 1.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Messrs. B Patel and Parker's NEW JACK 9-0 Sibbritt 1
Mrs E M Bleach's SHANGHAI 9-0 Jones 2
Hon Sir Shantidas Askuran's HUBB AL WATAN 9-2 Burn .. 3
Mr J D Banatwalla's MOZAN 9-2 Evans 4

Not run: Aziz Fadhil and Malik al Jiyad.

Won by: 1 length, Neck, 3/4 length

Time: 1 minute 22 4/5 seconds.

Tote paid: Win Rs. 23. Places Rs. 12, Rs. 20 and Rs. 13.

Trainer: Selvaratnam.

Colliery Control Order

NEW DELHI April 1: An order called the Colliery Control Order, 1944, has been promulgated. It extends to the whole of the British India and comes into force at once The order seeks to constitute a Coal Control Board and embodies the scheme of the Government evolved regarding the production and distribution of coal.—United Press.

Broach Urges Govt. To Raise Price Of Cotton

BROACH, March 31.

Resolutions urging Government to raise the price of cotton and to remove the ban on its movement from Broach were passed at a meeting of the Broach District Agriculturists' Association held yesterday.—A. P.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COTTON (MAY)

NEW YORK, April 1.

Previous Closing	20.86
To-day's Opening	20.83
Difference	—.03
To-day's Closing	20.86
Difference	Nil

ALL-INDIA WEATHER

POONA, April 1: The following is the weather-chart showing the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at eight hours on 28th March 1944:—

Allahabad 81 61 1.1, BOMBAY 87 74 0, Calcutta 90 67 0.3, Cawnpore 79 60 T. Cuttack 91 67 0.5, Darjeeling 54 43 T. Delhi 76 53 0.7, Dehra Dun 65 50 1.3, Jacobabad 86 62 0, Karachi 83 74 0, Lahore 64 55 0.3, Lucknow 80 59 0.5, Madras 89 77 0, Nagpur 96 68 0, Patna 81 65 0.4, Peshawar 65 55 0.3, Shillong 68 52 0.6, Simla 45 33 0.6.—A. P.

U. S. WAR CASUALTIES TOTAL 173239

WASHINGTON, April 1.

Casualties of the United States armed forced from the out-break of the war to date total 173,239 according to a report of the office of War Information.

This total, which combines war and navy department reports, includes:—Dead 40,657; wounded 64,098; missing 36,321; and prisoners of war 32,163.

Of these, however, 1,900 have been reported by the enemy as having died of disease in prison camps.—Reuter.

Justice Ameer Ali To Act As Bengal's Chief Justice

NEW DELHI Mar 29: It is announced that the Hoourable Mr. Justice Torick Ameer Ali, a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, to perform the duties of Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court during the absence on leave of the Honourable Sir Harold Derbyshire from the 15th April 1944 (or any later date on which he may avail himself of it) to the 31st August 1944, says a communique.

Rice-Smugglers Arrested

CALCUTTA, April 1

Thirty persons were arrested today at Sealdah railway station for, it is alleged, bringing into Calcutta rice for trading purposes in contravention of the Bengal rationing order of the Government of Bengal.—A. P.

BEAU JACK BEATS JUAN ZURITA

NEW YORK, April 1: "Shoeshine" Beau Jack, former World lightweight champion, outpointed Juan Zurita, the Mexican world-holder of the title according to the National Boxing Association, in a ten round non-title bout at Madison Square Garden here last night.—Reuter.

Unidentified 'Sub' Sinks Turkish Vessel

ANKARA, March 31.

The Ankara radio announces that the vessel "Krom" (3,359 tons) belonging to the Turkish State Administration of Waterways was torpedoed and sunk by an unidentified submarine at 10-30 a.m. yesterday in the Aegean sea.—Reuter.

DR. PREM TO FIGHT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS ON INDIAN ISSUE

Favours Dominion Status But Opposes Secessation From Empire

BIRMINGHAM, March 31.

Doctor Dhani Ram Prem, Secretary of the Birmingham Indian Association, who has announced that he intends to stand for Parliament at the next general election, will be the first Indian candidate to fight a campaign solely on the question of India.

In an interview with a Reuter's correspondent today he said that he proposed to oppose the Secretary of State for India whoever he might be at the time of the election.

"If he is still Mr. Amery, then I shall oppose him. If it is not Mr. Amery, then I am prepared to go to any part of the country.

I have nothing against Mr. Amery personally but it is simply that I want to see the office of Secretary of State abolished and the first step will be to fight the holder of it for a Parliamentary seat. It will be a test of public opinion on the subject of India."

Though a member of the Common Wealth, Dr. Prem does not propose to stand on their ticket. "If I do that, it will become a party issue and the Indian question which I want to keep at the front of the campaign may be submerged beneath domestic issues. If I stand as an independent, I may get support of all progressive parties".

"I do not advocate a break from the empire. If we can have equal status with other nations in the Commonwealth, there is no reason why we should not go on

I do not wish India to remain in the empire as as an inferior nation or as a junior partner

The ties of 200 years are strong though they are unpleasant and I think that India and Britain have much to give each other, as much to learn from each other.—A. P.

JAP ADVANCE TOWARDS IMPHAL CHECKED

(Continued From Page 5)

of fighting which followed, in spite of many casualties, the Japs held their ground and continued to put in determined attacks. Next morning, enemy positions were strafed by our fighters and further attempts by our troops met with success.

PUNJABI COMMANDER KILLED

The intensity of the fighting is indicated by the fact that during one night alone the Japs launched over six attacks on a feature on the south of the positions regardless of the heavy toll taken by a party of the Punjabis who were holding the position. It was here that a Company Commander of the Punjabis was killed and two senior V. C. O.'s seriously wounded.

JAPS WALK INTO ALLIED "POCKET"

ARAKAN FRONT, March 31.

How 400 Japs believed elements of one of the defeated regiments in the Ngakyedauk Pass area, apparently bent on retrieving their honour in a minor repetition of their former tactics, marched straight into a pocket surrounded by approximately 4,000 British and Indian troops, in what amounted to a "suicidal" operation, is described by an Indian Army observer in a dispatch from the Arakan.

One party of 150 Japs was intercepted by forward troops of a Punjab regiment.

With fatalistic indifference to the withering fire the Japs managed to gain a precearious foothold on a small ridge, the extreme limit of their success.

A battalion of Sikhs, supported by tanks, then went into the attack, and cleared them off the ridge. Next day, troops of another Punjab regiment, drove them further south.

More than 60 bodies have been found and total casualties of Japs who come into this area are estimated at twice that figure.

Further south, the remainder of the force of 400 were dealt with by British and Garhwali troops of another formation. Heavy casualties were inflicteed and only a few of te original 400 escaped.—A. P.

ART NOTES & COMMENTS

BY D. G. VYAS

Unsound Economics Of Aesthetics—Three Freedoms for the Artist —Do-nothing policy of the State—Lord Buddha on the screen—Classical music on the A. I. R.—Honour to the Poet-playwright of Gujarat.

What is the position of art in the India of to-day? The correct reply would be that it is adrift in the world which has not fully appraised its values and has not unreservedly guaranteed, to the artist, the freedom of expression, freedom to experiment and freedom from the anxiety of livelihood In the artists' camp art is rolling between the two extremes —the "dogmatic revivalism" and "stale academism". The adherents of the two "isms" who undeservedly claim themselves to be the "finalists" not infrequently engage themselves in squabbles to establish their respective schools as the last words on art, but they have to rely, for the judgment on a tribunal whose interest in art is superficial and scanty.

Demand And Supply

The romantic revivalists and academic diehards are, in spite of their fundamental differences, found to be undivided in "unemployment" and equally resentful of any progressive endeavour—institutional or individual. The producers are not likely to discard their stale wares if the consumers are not keen to demand fresh products. In India art has failed to keep pace with politics, economics and science, because it is standing on a ground which is slippery and shaky and, therefore, uncongenial to its growth The wider distribution and genuine progress of art are dependents upon the economic and educational life of the people. But one of the least understood and rarely discussed subjects is the economics of art.

It was, therefore, refreshing to hear Sir John Colville, the Governor of Bombay, referring to the "demand-and-supply" law in art while declaring open recently the exhibition of contemporary Indian art and crafts of the Sir J. J. School of Art. His Excellency cited one of the cardinal principles of the economics of art when he observed that art comes into existence in response to a need and that need is only felt in a society which has a high standard of good taste and appreciation and in which things of beauty are felt as a necessity to adorn and enrich life. Art blossoms only when it is realised and exploited as a vital and daily necessity of life.

The real demand for art is prompted not so much by good taste as by appreciation which should be intelligent and which should imply discrimination. The aesthetic instinct which is inherent in man, expresses itself in love for beauty and appreciation of art if it is judiciously trained since childhood. The demand should be conducive to the development and not merely to the mechanical production of art in conformity with the set formulae. Education is, obviously, the background of the economics of art. The current system of education in this country, however, has been divested of its aesthetic element and hence the extreme aesthetic poverty of the educated few. Will His Excellency the Governor of Bombay aim at eradicating the cause of the disease and at reorganising the educational system with a view to initiating the masses in appreciation of art?

The "demand-and-supply" law of economics varies in its application to aesthetics. It should aim at progress and not only at the mechanical production and propagation. Mass-production in order to ensure wider distribution will stimulate the overgrowth of art mediocrities, but it will not easily bring to the surface the creative artists unless the patrons will persistently demand art of progressively higher standards. And the "sine qua non" of the progress of art is the creative endeavour. The art, which entails the possibilities of progress should be the "expression" of and not "exaction" from the artist.

No State Patronage

Sir John Colville rightly said that unless there is a demand for his work the artist cannot produce his best and that he needs a market for his work to enable him to earn his living. His Excellency is not expected to be unaware of the position of the artist and the poor market for art in India. He should, therefore, be told that the State should be the first patron of art and should give a lead to the people. Will the Government of Bombay formulate a scheme with the object of distributing art on a democratic scale and of creating a demand for the artist—the demand which should be conducive to the development of art?

The Government maintains a mural decoration class in the Sir J. J. School of Art with a certain number of special scholarships, but it has, so far, not dreamt of any scheme which would ensure employment to the mural decorators in the official, municipal and also private buildings. The people are not expected to patronise art as long as the State pursues its pet do-nothing policy. The Governor said nothing about State-patronage to art, but instead, expressed the hope that the rich and the warm-minded men who have generously responded to his call for the funds for the Red Cross will extend patronage to the young artists. The subscribers to the Red Cross will immediately transform themselves into art-patrons and contribute liberally to the "Artists' Benevolent Fund" or "Promotion of Art Society" provided the same is sponsored by the Governor, but will such a patronage have any effect on the future of art?

For The People

The patronage to art should proceed from conviction and not from the sense of charity. The artist, who has a definite role to play in social economy, has a right to live in comfort and to demand the legitimate reward for what he creates and offers to the community. Retrogression of art is almost a certainty if the artist has no alternative but to depend upon the whims of the small clientele of the rich dilettanti. Art appreciation is never recognised as an aristocratic virtue, nor art is ever intended to be the bauble of the rich and the powerful. Art is a common heritage of the people and not an exclusive monopoly of the privileged few who style themselves as the elite and elegant. It is likely to find itself in a congenial position in the post-war world minus India in which it will probably have to count upon the subscribers to the "Red Cross" and "Famine and Flood Relief" Funds as its patrons.

One of the principles, which governs the economics of art and which is calculated to stimulate the growth of art, is the proper allocation of the artist in the social organisation. The artist will never find himself at sea in the midst of the community which is deeply convinced that art is a vital interest of life. Plagiarists, propagandists and imposters will slide into the background when the community will demand, without dictating its own terms, higher standards of art and will be able to pick out a few creative artists. The squabbles in the "ismites" camp about the finality of their respective schools will settle down when the patrons will develop the artistic vision and will be able to capture the creative content in the works of art. Art in India demands "three freedoms" to ensure its better future.

Film Of Lord Buddha

"Religion in danger" is the slogan raised by the State Council of Ceylon against the intention of the Prakash Pictures to produce a film on the life of Lord Buddha. The reason assigned by the Council is that the film is likely to hurt the religious feelings of the Buddhists world over. The proprietors of the Prakash Pictures, on the other hand, have declared that several leading Buddhists and the Representative of the Government of Ceylon in India have supported the project of the film. It is amazing that the State Council of a civilised country like Ceylon should try to withhold from the masses on religious and no other cogent grounds the teachings of Lord Buddha—the teachings which need to be emphasised in the world of today. The Government of India, it is hoped, will not toe the line with the State Council of Ceylon and follow, like it, the line of the least resistance.

What About Music?

The British Broadcasting Corporation has, in spite of its crowded programmes relating to the war, not let down music but on the contrary has laid greater emphasis on it. The All-India Radio appears to be moving in the reverse direction. It is keen to exploit the radio, in a large measure as the agency of news and propaganda and is satisfied to leave music to take care of itself during the times of the war. Propaganda was the leading note of the address delivered by the Hon Sir Sultan Ahmed, Minister for Information and Broadcasting to the meeting of the Publicity Advisory Committee on March 11. It is to be regretted that he did not have a word to say about music which is the vital need of the Indian listeners.

One of the high-lights of the programme of the Delhi station of Sunday March 19 was Professor Rahimuddin Khan—the well-known exponent of the Dhruvapad school. But the programme in the "Listener" indicated merely vocal music" against his name in the four items of 20, 15, 30 and 15 minutes each and made no mention of the term "Dhruvapads." Professor Rahimuddin Khan was not exempted from the rationed time-limit for singing. Even the maximum of 30 minutes is too short a period for rendering thoroughly an alap or a song in the Dhruvapad style. Does the music director of the Delhi station know what the Dhruvapad style of singing is like?

The Dhruvapad singing is very old and very delightful. But its exponents are few and far between and the occasions on which they are heard on the A.I.R. are rare. It will be a tragedy if Dhruvapads will die out through the neglect of the Broadcasting Department and the public. The radio-authorities are sometimes vehement in extolling the "valuable services" rendered by the radio to the cause of the Indian music; will they enlighten the public as regards the steps taken by them to rescue Dhruvapads from the danger of extinction? The All India Radio ought to go to the length of providing classical music as the exclusive fare on its programmes instead of compelling it to enter into competition with the so-called "light music" Is Sir Sultan Ahmed ready with any scheme to raise the standards of the classical music?

Poet-Playwright Of Gujarat

A noteworthy function which was organised on March 14 and 15 in the circle of the Gujarati stage of Bombay was the celebration, by his numerous friends and admirers, of the fifty-first birthday of Mr. Raghunath T. Brahmabhatt—the well-known poet and playwright of Gujarat. Mr. Brahmabhatt is the author of the popular plays like "Bhagvan Buddha" composed by him at the early age of nineteen years, "Shringi Rishi", "Surya kumari" and "Ajatashatru." As a poet he has to his credit a brilliant record of songs composed as music score for several plays and for recording by the gramophone companies. There have been occasions when some of the high brow litterateurs of Gujarat have sought co-operation of Mr. Brahmabhatt—a representative of the "professional stage"—for the purposes of songs for the production of their so-called literary plays.

The theatrical companies and some of the leading actors and actresses honoured Mr. Brahmabhatt by presenting at the Princess Theatre, Kalbadevi Road, selections from his plays The function, which proved to be successful, was presided over by Sir Shantidas Ashkaran—the Sheriff of Bombay. An address and a casket were presented to the poet-playwright on the following day in a meeting held under the presidentship of Mr Snamaldas Gandhi. Several speakers on both the occasions paid a warm tribute to him for his contribution to the literary and cultural life of Gujarat.

The popular playwrights like Messrs. Dwivedi and Brahmabhatt are not recognised by the Gujarati Literary Conference as litterateurs because they are connected with the "professional stage", but the functions organised in their honour ought to disillusion the conceited leaders of the conference that the professional stage is more representative of Gujarat than their handmaid—the conference can claim to be.

Children's Own Corner

Conducted by

BALKAN-JI-BARI — THE ALL-INDIA CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

"This general meeting of the children and workers of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari expresses its deep sorrow on the passing away of their dear 'Ba' while she was under detention. It heartily sympathises with Bapuji and the whole Indian nation on their great loss, and prays that Ba's soul which achieved freedom may ever rest in peace. May we have the strength to follow in Ba's footsteps and prove worthy of being called her children by trying our best for the cause which was dear to her and is dear to us all."

The above resolution, moved by the Chairman of the meeting arranged by the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari (All-India Children's Association), Shri Vaikunthbhai L. Mehta, on Sunday, March 26, morning, at the Laxmi Nagar Pavilion Hall, Khar, was passed by all standing, after a silent prayer for two minutes. And the resolution has been duly forwarded, as desired at the meeting, by Lady Manijeh R. Masani, Vice-President of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari, to Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Devdas Gandhi.

The meeting began with prayers and devotional songs by children. About 375 boys and girls, including Harijan children, and workers belonging to all Local Branches in Bombay and Suburbs of the Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari had gathered at their headquarters, Khar. Lady M. R. Masani, in requesting Shri Vaikunthbhai to take the chair, spoke at full length on the life of Kasturba, and explained how prominent she was although she did not seem to have come much in prominence during her life-time. Shri Prabhubhai, seconding the proposal, said that Ba was a real mother even to Bapuji.

Shri Vaikunthbhai Mehta, while placing the resolution before the meeting, referred to the selfless sacrifice and devotion to duty of the departed Ba. Shrimati Harshadaben Diwanji and Behu Jailbharati Upadhyaya also addressed the meeting, paying glowing tributes to Kasturba. Then the above-mentioned resolution was duly passed. After that Shri Rasikbhai Shah proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair and Shrimati Sarlaben Nanavaty seconded it. The meeting terminated after the singing of the Indian National Anthem "Vande-Mataram".

The Real Builders of To-morrow's Nation. (Photo by Asoka Kumar, 16 years).

* * *

Brother Fida Hussain I. Weesani of Hyderabad (Sind) has written the following nice little essay on "A Call to the Indian Youth":—When the whole world is thundering with the terrible voice of the War, is it not yet the time for the Indian Youth to shake off their slumbers?

The fate of the nation lies in the hands of the youth. And the children of to-day are the real builders of to-morrow's nation. The old men may only guide them, but it is for the youth to carry on the work. They, as a matter, of that, look up to us eagerly as to what we are doing and will do.

In all free and independent countries, the children are well trained from their very young days, and they are reminded that the country's fate is in their hands and that they must try to be the best citizens of to-morrow. The young men's hearts are full of patriotism and self sacrifice. They are quite fresh, and without getting tired, could achieve their aims and ideals.

In the young men and women of India, there is the same spirit of sacrifice even as the younger generation of other countries has. But the difficulty here is that from the very start they are trained as slaves, and their slavish mentality does not allow them to be active. That is why all other nations have advanced and we lag behind.

A child is free from all communal and such poisonous feelings. He is prejudiced only by certain surroundings and others' influences. And then he goes astray from his goal. However, we must forget all these differences, and try our best to get our Motherland free. Let us try and try till we succeed. India must achieve her ancient glory!

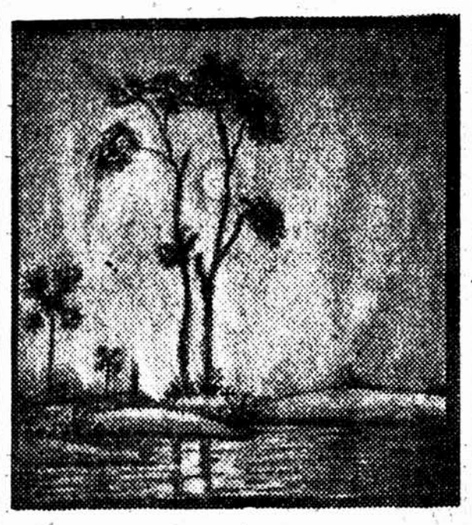
* * *

I have been requested by the Manager, "PUSHPA," to announce that owing to unavoidable circumstances, the April issue of "Pushpa—The Children's Own Paper" will come out a little late. Those, however, who are not its permanent subscribers, may reserve their copies immediately by sending four annas stamps to the Manager, "Pushpa", 31 Tribhovan Road, Bombay 4. The number, of course, contains very interesting reading matter and beautiful pictures.

All Good Wishes from

Your Loving Dada

"GULISTAN", KHAR—BOMBAY 21.



A BEAUTIFUL VIEW (Drawn by D. G. Shahapure, 15 years).

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

Why Vikram?

That, indeed, is the question—even if I seem to be the only one to ask it.

Among people who suffer from political subjection, worship of the past is a natural trait. Frustrated in our national aspirations, we seem to find a great deal of consolation in contemplation of "the glory that was Ind"—in the days of Asoka or Chandragupta or Vikramaditya or Akbar or Shahjehan!

It is not surprising, therefore, that so much fuss is being made in connection with the Bi-millennium of the Vikramaditya era. Out of the ashes of history, the personality of Vikram has emerged and dominates our thoughts and attention. All sorts of conferences and meetings, music festivals and art exhibitions are being organised to pay homage to the memory of the great emperor.

★

Why Vikram?

Like Jawaharlal Nehru "I am afraid I am a little too fond of running down kings and princes. I see little in their kind to admire or do reverence to." (Glimpses of World History). Therefore, my enthusiasm has not been much roused by all that I hear and read these days about Emperor Vikram. Indeed, I have been wondering why suddenly the whole country has become Vikram-conscious. If at all we had to revive the memory of some ancient king, why not Ashoka who, as a servant and benefactor of mankind, certainly was far more deserving of praise and admiration. And if it is only the accidental completion of the Bi-millennium why not celebrate it in honour of his contemporary, Kalidas? Why Vikram? Indeed, why?

May be we can get a clue from a statement issued by the Secretaries of Vikrama Celebrations Committee of the Marwari Sammelan:—

> To-day is the New Year's Day according to *Hindu* Calendar. Just 2,000 years ago there appeared on the Indian horizon the great shining sun Vir Vikramaditya, who by dint of his great valour and prowess *freed this holy and glorious land of Mother India from the clutches of the cruel aggressors* and established the mighty *Hindu* Empire. This Great *Hindu* Emperor was a true embodiment of ancient *Hindu* culture and civilisation and whatever critics may say, revered and glorious name of Vir Vikramaditya can never be removed from the hearts of millions of *Hindus*.
>
> To-day, therefore, is the day of the great national event and we earnestly appeal to all the citizens of Bombay, specially *Hindus*, to celebrate this important day in a befitting manner. Let us all remember and pay our respectful homage to the great hero.

★

Hindu Imperialism

We see two significant psychological tendencies at work when we are asked to revive the memory of Vikram because he had "established the mighty Hindu empire."

Firstly, then, Vikram is presented to us as a champion of Hinduism—his name, it is asserted, "can never be removed from the hearts of millions of Hindus"!

Secondly, it is not as an apostle, saint, philosopher or religious preceptor of Hinduism that Vikram is commended to us but as the builder of a "mighty Hindu empire."

Thus the appeal of Vikram is both religious and imperial and no wonder those who dream of re-establishing a "Hindu empire" over India are so enthusiastic about Vikram.

After this, surely you cannot expect the non-Hindus to feel enthusiastic about Vikram—and there are quite a few of them in India! Nor can you evoke much enthusiasm in the hearts of those Hindus who have embraced the larger religion of humanity and are no longer bound by any particular religious affiliation. An, finally, how can sworn anti-Imperialists feel enthusiastic about an emperor—*as an emperor*—when they are aiming at the uprooting of all empires—Hindu, Muslim, Christian or merely Capitalistic—, all kingships, monarchies and plutocracies?

I am afraid I sense in much of the Vikram enthusiasm now being sedulously generated in the country a desire (which may be partly sub-conscious) to use the Bi-millennium as a convenient occasion to propagate the ideal (or shall we call it illusion?) of Hindu imperialism. It is well-known that such an ideal (or illusion) has been nursed for long by misguided idealists and too well-guided opportunists in the ranks of the militant Hindu Sanghatanists. But I have always given the mass of the Hindus credit for being too sensible to be much enthused by it. To-day, perhaps, the spectre of Pakistan is frightening many Hindus into a psychological state when a "Hindu empire" becomes not only a desirability but a necessity—and Vikram provides a useful symbol of the resurgent Hindu imperialism.

But a "Hindu empire" will be as much of a reactionary anachronism in the twentieth century as Pakistan. Let us not forget the words of the wise Lenin (even if the Indian Communists have chosen to forget them):—

> **"The State must not concern itself with religion; religious societies must not be bound to the State."**

Pakistan may be an explanation of this sudden eruption of Hindu imperial sentiment but can be no defence of it. One mistake does not condone another. And if today Mr. Jinnah's green flag of Pakistan is making Hindus Vikram-conscious, and thus dream of a Hindu empire, it is equally true that the yellow Bhagwa Jhenda of Vir Savarkar and the sabre-rattling of Doctor Moonje and Bhai Parmanand have frightened many a Muslim into taking refuge in the camp of Pakistan.

A combination of sturdy nationalism, enlightened rationalism and a slightly cynical sense of humour alone can break this vicious circle of prejudice and illusion.

VIKRAMADITYA
Why Vikram?

And so, I ask for no boycott of Vikram celebrations. I have myself participated in some of them when their purpose has been the propagation of *Indian* (not merely *Hindu)* art, as the Vikram Music Congress in which most of the Ustads present were Muslims. But while participating in such functions one has to safeguard oneself against being swept off one's feet by an emotional-cum-religious current. Therefore, it will be a good idea for the healthy cynic to keep asking himself (and anyone else he meets) this simple question: Why Vikram?

★

A Page From History

If we must celebrate the Vikram bi-millennium, why not celebrate it by learning a few facts about the emperor and his times.

There are few completely reliable books on the history of India to which one can refer for an objective appraisal of the achievements and character of an ancient king like Vikramaditya against the social and economic background of his times. But one does get brief but revealing glimpses of it in Jawaharlal Nehru's "Glimpses Of World History."

The first thing we learn about Vikramaditya is that there was not one but several Vikramadityas. It was a title, like Caesar, adopted by many in succeeding generations. But the most famous of them all was the first whose original name was Chandragupta II, in whose time the Gupta dynasty reached its zenith of power.

First, then, let us have the background of the Gupta dynasty:

> "All over the North, there were small states often ruled by the descendants of the Sakas or Scythians or Turkis, who had come to India over the north-western frontier... these people were Buddhists and they had come to India not as enemies to raid but to settle down here... On coming to India these people largely adopted Indo-Aryan customs and traditions. They looked upon India as the parent country for religion and culture and civilization... They wanted the people of the country to forget that they were aliens. They succeeded in some measure, but not quite, for among the *Kshattriyas* especially the feeling rankled that aliens were ruling them... Ultimately

BEVERLEY NICHOLS
"Heil Hindu"
or Heil My Foot!

these disaffected people found a capable leader, and under his banner they started a "holy war," as it is called, to free Aryavarta. This leader was named Chandragupta...

"The *Kshattriyas* and the Aryan aristocracy, deprived of their power and positions by the aliens, were at the back of this war. After a dozen years of fighting, Chandragupta managed to gain control of a part of northern India. He then crowned himself king of kings.

"Thus began what is known as the Gupta dynasty..... It was a period of somewhat aggressive Hinduism and nationalism. The foreign rulers—the Turkis and Parthians and other non-Aryans—were rooted out and forcibly removed. We thus find racial antagonism at work. The Indo-Aryan aristocrat was proud of his race and looked down upon these barbarians and *mlechchas*.... Chandragupta's son, Samudragupta, was an even more aggressive fighter than his father. ..He extended the Gupta Empire..

"Samudragupta's son, Chandragupta II, was also a warrior king, and he conquered Kathiaward and Gujarat..... He took the name of Vikramaditya, and by this he is usually known.

"The Gupta period was the period of Hindu imperialism in India. There was a great revival of old Aryan culture and Sanskrit learning.... Kalidasa, that wonderful writer, belonged to this period. Vikramaditya is said to have had a brilliant Court, where he assembled the greatest writers and artists of the day.....

"The Gupta revival of Aryanism and Hinduism was naturally not very favourably inclined towards Buddhism. This was partly because this movement was aristocratic, with *Kshattriya* chiefs backing it, and Buddhism had more democracy in it.....

"The Gupta period was one of aggressive imperialism and conquest and victory. But there are many such imperialistic periods in the history of every country, and they have little importance in the long run. What makes the Gupta times stand out, and worthy of being remembered with some pride in India, is the wonderful renaissance of art and literature which they witnessed."

And I am inclined to accept the judgment of Jawaharlal Nehru rather than that of the Secretaries of the Marwari Sammelan Vikrama Celebrations Committee.

★

"Sati Kasturba"

Hind Kitabs, an enterprising new publishing firm, have brought out the first book on the late Kasturba Gandhi. "Sati Kasturba" is a timely tribute to a great spirit and will serve as a source of inspiration to the people of India.

Edited by Mr. R. K. Prabhu, Assistant Editor of "The Bombay Chronicle", this is a handy little volume, simply but attractively got-up with an excellent sketch of Kasturba on the cover. The main part of the book is devoted to a life-sketch which vividly brings out all those qualities of selfless devotion, humility, boundless courage and sheer goodness which characterised the great little lady who is no more. Confrere Kalyanpur's article, giving some personal glimpses of Kasturba that originally appeared in this paper, has also been included and provides an interesting and unusual sidelight. The many tributes paid to the departed soul by the press and public personalities have been brought together in the Appendices.

Mayor Masani, in the foreword, draws our attention to the fact that a National Memorial Fund has been established to perpetuate Kasturba's memory and adds that "the editor and the publishers of this book have decided that their royalties and profits will go towards the Fund..... Every reader is thus enabled, in one act, to learn more about Kasturba, as well as to contribute his or her mite towards perpetuating her memory."

The book is priced at Re. 1|4.

★

Heil My Foot!

Believe it or not, Beverley Nichols (who came here promptly after Lord Linlithgow's call to British writers to go to India and, during his fairly long stay, put his foot into several bad spots—including his own mouth!) has written the inevitable book telling you all about India—*India from the inside!*

Unless he changes the title at the last moment, it is to be called "HEIL HINDU", and the theme is stated to be—hold your breath!—that the Congress is a Fascist organisation!

Writing from England, a friend informs us that the book is being eagerly awaited in the proper circles—*in imperialist circles!*

★

The Englishman Who Did Quit India!

Which reminds us of an utterly delicious story about Beverley, the brave little boy, who came to India.

He was a sensitive little boy, yes, sir, so he was. He would not over-stay his welcome for a minute. And so, when he read in this paper an article headed, "GO BACK TO BRITAIN, BEVERLEY!", he took the hint immediately. He ordered twelve copies of the paper cut out the article, pasted a copy on each item of his luggage and took a taxi to the air-port.

The funniest thing about this story is that it is true.

Japs Leave Death & Desolation

CHINESE JOURNALIST'S EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT

There has just become available a firsthand account by C. Y. Hsu, of the Central News Agency of China, of the atrocities perpetrated by the Japanese in the summer of last year during their retreat from Changteh through the fertile and once prosperous country on the Hunan-Hupeh border.

I have travelled on foot for about 250 kilometres from Santouping to Tsinshih following the main route of the enemy retreat. What I saw and heard was hellish devastation and misery.

Whole villages and towns were blotted out, leaving only charred beams and burned bricks, and tiles and broken utensils marked their sites. Often for miles I did not meet a single soul or hear a dog bark or a cock crow. It was so deadly quiet and lifeless that I wondered whether the world had come to an end.

When I did see signs of humanity, I met men and women with nervousness and worry written on their faces. Most of them were refugees who had survived the enemy slaughter and cruelty. I asked hundreds of them what happened when the enemy came. The invariable answer I got was: "Horrible; they massacred civilians, burned houses, raped women, kidnapped men and looted property."

It seemed that the Huns were once again let loose, laying waste and spreading terror wherever they went. Destruction and misery mark their routes of advance and retreat.

Ruins here, ruins there, ruins everywhere. Picking my way through shambles at Changyang, Moshih, Nierchiaho, Shengchiaping and other places, I thought I was walking amidst ruins wrought by medieval barbarians. As I walked along, often for scores of miles I could not find any restaurant or store where I might get food, or when darkness was deepening find an inn at which I might stay. On most occasions I would enter any farmer's cottage I happened to approach and arrange for one board and two benches with which to make a bed.

Massacre At Changkao

Incomplete statistics show that more than 5,000 houses were burned at Itu and 3,000 at Changyang. Generally speaking, from 40 to 100 per cent of houses at places where the Japanese had set foot were burned. Records of Japanese incendiarism would have been higher had it not been for the hot pursuit of the Chinese forces and the fire-fighting efforts of civilians who did their best to put out fires as soon as the enemy had left.

Civilians murdered by the Japanese at various places ranged from a few persons to tens of thousands. The most terrible massacre was committed by the Japanese at Changkao in the Hanshou district in the Tungting Lake area. The once peaceful township was turned into a slaughter house when the Japanese arrived there. Over 20,000 people, including the local inhabitants as well as refugees from other places in the lakeside area, were massacred in cold blood. These people who took refuge there were completely trapped, as Changkao is practically surrounded by water on all sides. The massacre continued for five days, during which the Japanese made a thorough search of all houses, woods, bushes and paddy fields and sent out patrols by boats to prevent escape by water. To save ammunition they used bayonets to kill the defenceless people. Corpses lay all over the place and floated in the lake.

Following the recovery of Changkao, the first thing the Chinese authorities did was to bury all the dead, but it is feared that an epidemic may break out, as there are too many corpses and sanitary facilities lacking.

Sadistic Cruelty

Upon their entry into a village or town, the Japanese at once sought young and beautiful girls. Thousands of women in places they ravaged in West Hupeh and the Tungting Lake area, including women of over 70 and little girls around seven, were raped. Indicating Japanese sadism, some victims were bayoneted to death. The magistrate of Itu told me that at least 3,000 women in his district were dishonoured by the marauders.

When the Japanese invaded Chiachia village in Lihsien, west of Tungting Lake, a delegation of villagers received them and promised to offer them whatever they wanted if only they would leave their womenfolk alone. The Japanese commanding officer flatly turned down their request.

Thousands of men were commandeered by the Japanese and treated as slaves to bear loads or do other kinds of hard labour. Most of them were taken to the north bank of the Yangtze river upon the enemy's retreat. Some who escaped brought back stories of Japanese cruelty and bestiality.

Japanese destruction was carried out with malicious intent. They killed all oxen and cows they came upon. A preliminary investigation reveals that in Itu some 4,000 oxen and cows were killed and in Changyang some 3,000. After killing an ox or cow, the Japanese cut off only one piece of meat from it and left the rest of the carcass to rot.

The Japanese marauders broke all cooking utensils—pots, pans and kettles—and took away scrap. They also dashed to pieces all dishes, bowls and cups. They set afire grain when they could not take it with them. Farmers told me that the enemy did not plunder much rice in the Tungting Lake area as it was not yet harvested at the time of invasion. Only limited quantities in granaries were looted or destroyed.

Japanese troops robbed Chinese of their cotton quilts and clothing. They spread the cotton quilts on slippery mud paths as there were torrential rains and tore up the clothes to bind the legs of horses and mules. Though travelling in a wild countryside I had no difficulty in finding my way as it was marked by ruined houses, shreds of cotton quilts and clothes.

Vandalism Encouraged

The Japanese not only indulged in vandalism themselves but also encouraged puppet Chinese and Mongol troops to do the same. Villagers told me that they distinguished some Mongols among enemy cavalrymen. They described them as "tall and bearded." Puppet troops were strictly forbidden to talk to Chinese villagers for fear they might fraternise with them. However, despite Japanese precautions many puppet troops surrendered to the Chinese Government troops. In some cases they killed their Japanese commanding officers before coming over.

Preliminary statistics show that as a result of the recent Japanese invasion of West Hupeh and the Tungting Lake area in Northern Hunan, the heaviest losses sustained by one 'hsien' (county) amounted to about Ch. dol. 150,000,000 (£1,875,000), and by one 'hsiang' (village) as much as Ch. dol. 10,000,000 (£125,000).

Because of the lack of seeds (burned) and farming cattle (killed) and implements (destroyed), vast tracts of land now lie idle. With their houses and property destroyed and ravaged, hundreds of thousands of people were rendered homeless and destitute. They will be facing starvation and cold with the advent of autumn and winter. Both the central and provincial authorities are devising relief measures and have appropriated relief funds aggregating Ch. dol. 13,000,000. But the task is titanic in view of the magnitude of destruction wrought by the enemy.

Victory Through Air

Can Luftwaffe Be Knocked Out in 60 Days?

By E. COLSTON SHEPHERD

We have grown accustomed in Britain to the view that strategic bombing cannot be expected to yield quick results. The opinion attributed to an American spokesman in London that the Luftwaffe can be knocked out within 30 to 60 days sounds to British ears like asking a cart-horse to gallop.

Admitting that the scale of heavy bombings has risen and is still rising and agreeing that the German fighter strength has suffered seriously in air battles, we who have watched the fruits of persistence, are unwilling to prophesy a swift final victory. Germany has shown certain skill in stretching her resources. The present optimism concerning the overthrow of her air arm rests on the alternative assumptions that she will present her fighter forces for a decisive series of combats or that if she refuses combat, her aircraft can be destroyed on the ground.

Change-over To Fighters

Air forces in Europe are said to have been ordered to overwhelm the Luftwaffe and the best way to do it is to cut off their supply of aircraft and to shoot down those already in the front line. Neither method can be sure of complete success within a given period or in a given theatre of war. Goebbels was boasting the other day of the widespread dispersal of the German aircraft industry in occupied countries and, tainted though that source is, we know that there is an element of truth in his statement. The bombing of factories which make aircraft components and of shops in which they are assembled could be expected to have an immediate effect only if the German production had been unable to build up a reserve during the winter.

For the greater part of the year, Germany has profited from the change-over to fighter production. That change was made during the winter of 1942. By mid-summer last, the fighter output was estimated at about 1,000 monthly. It has since risen to 1,500 and there were hopes in the Reich that it would go up to 2,000. That hope began to fall when the big aircraft shops at Wiener-neustadt were damaged by the Americans early this year and when the R. A. F. went for the components works in Liepzig, Munich, Augsburg and Oscerslen. There were other attacks on Regensburg, Brunswick and the industrial areas of Berlin.

The Long View

During the past three months the German aircraft industry has been hard hit. Certain of its satellites in France have been harshly dealt with but those parts which were moved into East Prussia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Baltic States suffered comparatively little. The remaining flow of aircraft from such sources may not have been quite enough to replace the losses of the past three months and yet sufficient to allay serious anxiety, particularly in view of the large output of the preceding six months. Germany may quite possibly have built 7,000 or 8,000 fighters during that period. She has not lost one half of them in combat on the western and the southern fronts and she may be expected still to have units in Western Europe with front line strength of about 1,500 fighter aircraft.

A force of that size may indeed be inadequate for the defensive work of such magnitude as that which has faced her during February and March. The Luftwaffe may well be questing about for new means of making a little go a long way. Some change in the tactical or the strategical plan may explain in part the immunity from opposition enjoyed by the American heavies that went to Berlin and to Munster recently. Whether the Luftwaffe intends to try an offensive against Allied air bases or to save its strength for an attempt to "scotch" the invasion when the second front opens, it is obviously persuaded of the need to take a long view.

The Allies will have to be sure of bringing the Luftwaffe to full combat if they are to knock it out in 60 days. The opening of the second front would probably do it but the prospects of tempting it to destruction without a gambit of that order are small as we in Britain have found during the past three years.

Culture On Wheels

By S. ROSTOVSKY.

The cultural service motor cars, widely used by the Red Army, are generally maintained at the entire frontline Red Army clubs.

The personnel of such a car is never large and is made up of the chief—generally, senior lieutenant or captain, lecturer or movie operator and driver.

There are cars fitted with travelling cinema outfit, a varied stock of films, phonograph with amplifiers and a large number of records. The folk songs are particularly popular among men. Each service car carries a small library of placards and photographs of Soviet war heroes. The chief of the service car or movie operator are also photographers.

Fitted out in this manner, the trucks are constantly cruising the war zones. Bad roads, shelling or other dangers cannot deter them. Very frequently do they visit battalions and even individual companies in the forward positions.

Always are they impatiently awaited by officers and men, and their appearance is greeted as something in the nature of a holiday.

With bated breath do the men watch the films. At such times, the lecturer is generally busy with another unit delivering a talk on the international situation, home affairs or the situation at the front.

Some trucks carry two and three lecturers to serve as many detachments as possible. At all stopovers the service car chief organizes a photo display, distributes leaflets and brochures; while the company librarians book carriers (volunteers among men) circulate the books of the library.

The photo display is invariably well received. Often do the officers and men find in the photos themselves in display. This, naturally, makes them feel proud of themselves and stimulates others to strive for similar distinction. At each stopover, officers and men, who have distinguished themselves in action, are photographed and figure in display at the next halting place.

Having spent a day or two with the regiment and served in all its detachments the truck departs for the neighbouring regiment. Thus they keep travelling from time to time returning to the Red Army house bases to renew their material.

The following data is characteristic of the work of such truck on the First Ukrainian Front.

In December, 1943, its lecturer and chief delivered sixty-four lectures and talks. The movie operator held eighty-five cinema shows.

Upon the request of sappers on one occasion the phonograph amplifier outfit was got going with its best folk-songs and dances. The sappers raising the brigade in the vicinity, later declared that this facilitated their work and enabled them to cut the construction time by half.

There are many such trucks in the service of the Red Army. Their activities appreciably contribute to the victories of the Soviet troops.

MENSO GOVT. REGD.

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RED ARMY GOES INTO ACTION

Registered No. B 4666

This bomber crew is from a division which received the Guards' Banner.

The flying day over, this fighter plane is wheeled under the camouflage net screen. The ground crews give it the once-over.

Sidelights On Invasion

BRITAIN BECOMES VAST AIRFIELD!

By "A LONDONER"

Britain has become a vast airfield. From John-O-Groats in the extreme north to the islands of the southern tip at Lands End, the people of the cities, towns and villages, even of the remote countryside hear the continual drone of Allied bombers.

By day they are in the main United States craft, sometimes just pinpoints against the blue sky or if the weather is cloudy just a ceaseless low drone above the cloudbanks. By night they are R.A.F. machines silhoutted against star light or passing like ants across the face of the full white moon.

Sometimes both are flying together in the full light of the day, the medium bombers darting overhead very low, while Fortresses with their screen of fighters move like a series of infantry squares high in the heavens.

From dawn to dusk and dusk to dawn they fill the skies.

Path To Victory

Those in Britain who have built so many of these machines and know what it is to work under bombing thrill with pride when they hear or see this traffic to the Continent. For the Allied air supremacy is tracing that path to victory.

It has just been a "bombers moon" over Germany and a "fighters moon" over Britain. Since its welcome light flooded Britain's roof-tops, hardly a German plane has risked an encounter with R.A.F.'s night fighters.

Following the Luftwaffe's recent vicious stabs at Britain's defences stirrup pump crews stood ready with firemen at their stations, while the ordinary civilian worker went back to his 1940 routine.

Buckets of sand and water seemed magically to appear in the houses and baths were kept half full. But all that Britain heard was a drone of Allied bombers heading to the south-east.

This preliminary attack is the workers' greatest pride to-day. While overhead fly planes they have made round them on the ground has grown one of the greatest forces of armament ever assembled together on this island.

Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Britain's Minister of Production, revealed the figures that had been achieved from the beginning of the war to the end of 1943. They will give some idea of the country's war potential. They comprise 83,000 tanks, armoured cars and carriers; and over 115,000 guns of calibres larger than 20 M. M: 150,000,000 rounds of gun ammunition and nearly 7,000,000,000 rounds of small arms ammunition and nearly 5,250,000 machine-guns, sub-machine-guns and rifles and more than 1,000,000 wheeled vehicles of unarmed types and 90,000 aircraft mainly of combat types.

General Montgomery, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder and General Eisenhower are seen by the public in flying visits here and there.

"The big three" have inspected something of this gigantic Anglo-American force that is waiting to go "over the top."

Familiar Faces

The face of Eisenhower, with his broad smile beneath keen searching eyes and the bright boyishness of Tedder are becoming as familiar to the public as the benevolent frown of Monty.

Easter will be here shortly but there will be no old style easter, frolicking for the nation.

Notices from railways are now appearing in newspapers warning the public that there will be no extra trains for the holiday. It will be another stay-at-home season with village fairs and town amusements booming. A large part of the country will spend the vacation on their gardens planting vegetables where flowers used to be.

Women who have now done almost every job in the industry have added one more to their list. Long ago they learned to climb telegraph poles and carry out repair and maintenance work. Their latest task is to act as fog signallers on railways. This often involves going to remote parts of the tracks in the worst weather and placing detonators on the rail to warn the drivers that fixed signals are ahead.

Oxford Girls As 'Human Guinea Pigs'!

If you should happen to walk along High Street, Oxford, and see girl undergraduates with bright yellow complexions, don't be alarmed. It is not a new make-up craze.

The girls have become "human guinea pigs" in a new drive to combat malaria.

Both men and women students answered the call for volunteers from the R.A.M.C. Malaria Research Unit, which is trying to find a substitute to replace the large supplies of quinine lost to the Japs. They volunteered although there were rumours that the "patients" might become mental defectives.

The rumours were unfounded, a girl said. "I seem a lot brainier since I began the tests."

Some of the undergraduates have, however, turned a beautiful yellow. But they are not depressed over it. "So you're getting yellow, ha?" is only one of their cracks.

But they take their job seriously. One medical student "cycles" 40 miles in a special room tropically heated. The idea was to see the effect of tests on a person undergoing a strain similar to that which our jungle fighting men have to endure.

Before they were accepted for experiments, the students had to send "consent" forms home for their parents to sign. The Government has promised to compensate them to any injury which may result.—(Daily Mirror.)

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